

J. H. Davis
4. Crane Court
Fleet Street

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

THE WATERS OF POLITICAL STRIFE EMBITTERED BY THE STATE CHURCH.

A FEW weeks since we commenced a series of articles designed to illustrate the political and social evils produced by the civil establishment of religion. We had held up state ecclesiastics as having been, in all times, active in opposing national progress, and we had looked at "the Church of England" as a mere instrument in the hands of the aristocracy, preserved and kept bright by the ruling powers, to answer political purposes for which it is exquisitely adapted, rather than religious ones which it is but ill-fitted to work out; when we were called upon to settle a preliminary question—namely, the tenure upon which church property is held. That point having been disposed of, and the party who raised it dismissed as unworthy of further notice, we proceed to the accomplishment of our original design.

We should be now, but for the interruption above adverted to, have admitted such an exception to our charge against the established clergy as justice, in our honest opinion, might seem to demand. Nor shall we now be precluded from such a course by the blind and senseless rage of an unprincipled opponent.

We admit, then, with all cheerfulness, that the charge we have preferred against the clergy of the church of England, applies with equal force against the clergy of every established church, in all times, and in every country. In Scotland, the presbyterians; in Germany, the Lutherans; in England, previously to the reformation, the Roman catholics; in the American states, whatever sect happened to be in alliance with the civil power, have manifested the same intolerance, have presented the same obstruction to national progress, have sympathised with oppression, and opposed the freedom and independence of the human mind. We blame not the men but the system. The position in which an establishment places the clergy whom it patronises, no matter what their creed, is both anomalous and false, destructive of their religion, and propitious only for the development of the worst passions of human nature.

We admit further, and that with no reluctance, that there are amongst the clergy of the established church of England many good men—men of sound learning, of liberal principles, of eminent piety; men whose motives are pure, whose devotedness to the cause of true religion is exemplary; men who would be ornaments to any denomination, useful in any sphere, respected by any party, stedfast amidst every change; laborious ministers, christian gentlemen, true patriots, zealous philanthropists. We hail them with acclamation. We admire, we honour, we love them. But that must be a charity which "believeth all things" with a vengeance, which is not compelled to confess that such men are exceptions—splendid but too few; "rari nantes in gurgite vasto." They serve rather to illustrate than to disprove the rule. Their light only renders the surrounding darkness more palpable.

We call upon churchmen, then, to look the charge steadily in the face. It is unmanly to blink it. Let them disprove it by historical evidence, and they will do more to elevate the clergy in popular estimation, than they will ever do by the most fulsome panegyrics. By this means they will produce a deeper impression upon the minds of dissenters, than by fifty years of the most scurrilous abuse. The charge is either true or false. If false, let its falsehood be thoroughly exposed. If true, the interests of all parties demand that it should receive the gravest deliberation.

With these remarks we advance to the more immediate object of this article. We contend that a national church embitters the waters of political strife—inflames rather than soothes difference of opinion—and adds difficulty to the settlement of every great question affecting the temporal welfare of the country.

Difference of opinion on all the important topics of legislation is, of course, unavoidable; but then it is quite compatible with social harmony. There can be no valid reason why discordant judgments should necessarily be accompanied by angry and malevolent passions. If, indeed, the deep interest taken by men in the success of their political principles compels them to resent all opposition to them—if party spirit must be engendered, and "offences" of this character must needs come, surely it is the part of a wise legislature to mitigate the evil to the full extent of its power, but especially to guard against fanning into fierceness the fire which smoulders in the bosom of the community.

But what is the state of things in this kingdom? Civil and reli-

gious affairs are so blended, so interwoven by an establishment, that it would appear impossible to touch upon any subject connected with the public interests, however apparently remote, without hurting some tender part of our mother church. Every question is, on her account, made a religious one. Into the discussion of every leading topic of civil policy she infuses the acrid and cantankerous ingredient of ecclesiastical intolerance. The church, which should be an emollient to allay the irritation produced by difference of opinion, becomes, when allied with the state, a blister to increase inflammation. Measures, accordingly, are not viewed in reference to their own intrinsic merits, but in reference to their probable bearing on the establishment. Our senators are in perpetual danger of committing sacrilege. If they should attempt to wash away the corruption which cleaves about most of the institutions of our land, by turning into them the stream of public opinion, ten to one but they find themselves convicted of infidelity. Their votes upon a turnpike act may unexpectedly subject them to the charge of atheism. Electoral bodies are canvassed in the name of holy truth, and are admonished, by their love of God, to support this or that line of political sentiment. Indeed, so glaring has this evil become, that politics are made the test of religious character; and the wretch who is wheeled up to the poll in a state of beastly intoxication, is an infidel, or a pillar of the church, according as he may happen to give his vote.

Mutual good-will, cordial intercourse, and even intimate friendship between parties differing in their religious sentiments, are not uncommon amongst dissenters. But between dissenters and churchmen they are rare indeed. The phenomenon, however, much as it is to be deplored, is easily explained. The state, by patronising a particular sect, produces, as might reasonably be expected, in the one party arrogance, in all others discontent. In the one case pride will be fostered; in the other a sense of injustice, and a consciousness of degradation. The result is, personal hostility, exasperated feeling, mutual suspicion, and, in a large number of instances, the extinction of all the kindlier tendencies of our nature.

The unnumbered evils of *caste* are inseparable from the establishment of religion. Men's respectability is measured by their theological creed, and their station in society determined by their views of divine truth. Hence, cordial co-operation for the attainment of objects, the value of which both sides admit, is in most cases prevented. Every village has two distinct sets of apparatus for doing good—the one worked by churchmen, the other by dissenters. Every town has its exclusive circles of social enjoyment—the one appropriated to churchmen, the other to dissenters. Every section of society is thus split up into incoherent parts. Many are the schemes of usefulness which have been abandoned, owing to the absence of good feeling between the favoured and the degraded sects. Still more numerous are those which from the same cause are worked inefficiently. Into every corner of the kingdom the state has thrown the torch of discord by its injudicious meddlings with religious opinion, and has transmuted difference of belief into personal alienation of feeling.

BLACKWOOD ON NON-INTRUSION.

IT is seldom that the friends of protestant nonconformity find in the pages of the great high-church and tory champion of the North even a moderately fair statement of their case; but in the number for the present month will be found an article on non-intrusion, having a special bearing upon the subjects which agitate the Scotch church, but giving such a common-sense view of the whole question involved in "what is an established church?" that we regret our space will not allow us to give it entire. We cannot, however, withhold from our readers the following extract, which is of a very different character from the flippant twaddle on this subject we have lately been compelled to notice:—

"The church, as an establishment, is the creature of the state—such, we are glad to see, are the sentiments and language of the non-intrusionist Lord Advocate, and we say the same thing, without meaning to use the words in a derogatory sense. The established church has been created by the state. The church of Christ is coeval and co-extensive with christianity, but we are not now speaking of a spiritual church, neither are we speaking of a certain voluntary *sect*. In this country the state, at the Reformation, selected a protestant and presbyterian body of christians, and established them as a national church. It offered to them certain conditions, which individuals were free to accept or decline. It still offers the same conditions, but it presses them on no one. It merely says to individuals, if you like my conditions take my endowments; but if you do not accept the one you ought not to seek the other."—*Blackwood's Magazine*, August, 1841.

Here is the case of a church establishment stated clearly and concisely. If you take my endowments take my conditions, or if you reject the one give up the other.

The various pretences for holding fast the emoluments of a state church without obeying the conditions of the holding, have been all, more or less, urged before, but never with such bare-faced effrontery as at present. On both sides of the Tweed the case seems pretty much alike; both churches are the things of yesterday, created by act of parliament, and both are in the same condition, with this exception, that the church of Scotland, being a little in advance of her sister of England, has come somewhat earlier into collision with the state.

The Roman catholic writers claimed the temporalities for their church, independently of the state, with some degree of plausibility, seeing that a considerable portion of these temporalities consisted of the bequests of individuals for the uses and purposes of this very church; but when the majority of the nation, or the representatives of the nation, saw, or fancied they saw, that this Roman catholic church was abusing the trusts reposed in it—that it had ceased to be what it professed—the state, or the majority, decreed that these temporalities should pass over to another set of men, whose faith and practice were then deemed to be more in unison with those of the country at large.

It is with the vagaries of these new men, whose title deeds are as yet scarcely dry, that we have to contend; a particular section of them claiming the temporalities of the church as an inalienable right—a right derived from themselves, somehow, by virtue of a something, unexplained and unexplainable. To-day the enactments of the state are omnipotent, and are to be obeyed at all hazards; to-morrow the cry of spoliation is ringing through the land, and resistance to this same power becomes a merit. All these murky spots are the natural results of that unhallowed connection which we have so frequently repudiated; and believing, as we do, that this connection is at variance with the whole tenor of the new testament dispensation, and that its tendency has been, and is, to taint the whole character of our national religion, we shall continue, in season and out of season, to urge every lover of true religion to make the absolute separation of the church from the state a cardinal point in his creed.

THE CONSTITUTIONS AND CANONS ECCLESIASTICAL OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

CONSTITUTIONS and canons ecclesiastical treated upon by the Bishop of London, president of the Convocation for the province of Canterbury, and the rest of the bishops and clergy of the said province; agreed upon with the king's majesty's license, in their Synod, begun at London, Anno Domini, 1603, and in the year and reign of our Sovereign Lord James, by the grace of God, King of England, France and Ireland, the First, and of Scotland, the Thirty-seventh: and now published for the due observation of them by his majesty's authority under the great seal of England.

OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

I. The king's supremacy over the church of England in causes ecclesiastical to be maintained.

As our duty to the king's most excellent majesty requireth, we first decree and ordain, that the archbishop of Canterbury (from time to time), all bishops of this province, all deans, archdeacons, parsons, vicars, and all other ecclesiastical persons, shall faithfully keep and observe, and (as much as in them lieth) shall cause to be observed and kept of others, all and singular laws and statutes, made for restoring to the crown of this kingdom the ancient jurisdiction over the state ecclesiastical, and abolishing of all foreign power, repugnant to the same. Furthermore, all ecclesiastical persons having cure of souls, and all other preachers, and readers of divinity lectures, shall, to the uttermost of their wit, knowledge and learning, purely and sincerely, without any colour or dissimulation, teach, manifest, open, and declare, four times every year at the least, in their sermons and other collations and lectures, that all usurped and foreign power (forasmuch as the same hath no establishment or ground by the law of God) is for most just causes taken away and abolished: and that therefore no manner of obedience, or subjection, within his majesty's realms and dominions is due to any such foreign power, but that the king's power, within his realms of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and all other his dominions and countries, is the highest power under God; to whom all men as well inhabitants, as born within the same, do by God's laws owe most loyalty and obedience, afore and above all other powers and potentates in the earth.

II. Impugners of the king's supremacy censured.

Whosoever shall hereafter affirm, that the king's majesty hath not the same authority in causes ecclesiastical that the godly kings had amongst the Jews and christian emperors of the primitive church; or impeach any part of his royal supremacy in the said causes restored to the crown, and by the laws of this realm therein established, let him be excommunicated *ipso facto*, and not restored, but only by the archbishop, after his repentance and public revocation of those his wicked errors.

[It is our intention, as space and convenience permit us, to place before our readers all the canons of the church of England, that the rotteness which lies about the foundations of the establishment may be exposed to the light of day.]

CHURCH RATES, DOVER.

ANCHOR COURT, Wednesday, August 4.

Still and Bunn against Palfrey.

This was a question as to the admission of the libel, after reformation, in a suit for subtraction of church-rate by the churchwardens of St. Mary the Virgin, Dover, against Mr. Daniel Palfrey, a parishioner. The points in dispute were the same as when the libel was discussed on the 26th. of May, and of which argument we gave a report. It appears from the plea that the church of St. Mary the

Virgin is a very ancient edifice, of Saxon origin, and that the patronage is vested in the inhabitants, who appoint the minister and assign him a stipend, (which has varied in different years, from 877, in 1611, to 2007., the salary paid to the present minister, the Rev. John Maule); that the parishioners not only appoint the minister, but have exercised the power of dismissing him (as well as the parish clerk) without the intervention of the ecclesiastical court, taking, in all cases, an agreement from the minister to observe certain conditions, such as residence and the performance of the service in person, which is considered to have the effect of a bond of resignation. There being no tithes or glebe, the only profits accruing to the minister beyond his salary are, Easter-offerings and fees (of uncertain amount); and the salary is defrayed by a rate or cess upon the parishioners. The libel pleaded at considerable length these and the subsidiary facts in detail, and the question was, whether a rate made, under such circumstances, by a committee of the vestry, the churchwardens being present, and covering the stipend of the minister, was valid and could be enforced.

Dr. PHILLIMORE, with whom was Dr. Harding, opposed the rate on three several grounds. First, that having been made by a committee of the vestry, and not by the whole parishioners in vestry assembled, it could not be a valid rate. Secondly, that, professing to be a rate for the maintenance and repair of the church, a large proportion went for the minister's stipend, which also rendered it an illegal rate; and thirdly, he argued that the rate was illegal, because even admitting that a church-rate, a part of which went to pay the minister, could be legal, it was in the present case rendered illegal by having been made by a committee of the vestry, and not by the whole parishioners. The learned counsel objected to that article in the libel which set forth the custom in the parish of making the rate by a quorum of five of a committee, appointed by the parishioners. The article stated that this had been done in the case of the rate in question, according to ancient usage and custom. This, he contended, was insufficient. The plaintiffs ought to have set forth the origin of the custom, unless, indeed, they meant that it had existed beyond the time of legal memory, which would, in other words, be making it prescriptive, and take it out of the province of that court. The libel alleged nothing whatever, but went to establish this custom, or to take this parish out of the operation of the ordinary ecclesiastical law. He denied the legality of the rate made by a committee of the parishioners. Even on the libel itself, in exhibit No. 9, the opposite was shown to have been the practice. For in January, 1629, it appeared, by the registry, that the parishioners of St. Mary had assembled in vestry, and proceeded to make a rate for the payment of the minister's wages, and for the repair of the church. Again, in making a rate for a cemetery, the same course had been pursued. The parishioners, as a whole, assembled to make that rate, nor was there any pretence of making it by a committee. He contended that his learned friends must take either one course or the other, as being the custom of the parish. The next objection to the rate was, that while it was ostensibly a church-rate, it was also to be applied to the payment of a part of the minister's stipend. This, he contended, rendered it illegal. There was a high authority on the subject, which went directly to the point in maintaining his view. He alluded to the decision of Dr. Lushington, in *Tann and Clitheroe v. Owen*. There the learned judge laid it down as a general principle that the minister's stipend cannot be paid out of a rate levied for the repair and maintenance of the church. It was not competent to the parishioners to make up the income of the minister in this way; it could not be done except by act of parliament. The arguments adduced by the learned counsel in support of the third objection were the same as those urged in support of the first.

Dr. BURNABY and Dr. NICHOLL, in support of the libel, argued that no authority had been cited to show that *prima facie* the rate was not valid; the case of "*Tann and Clitheroe v. Owen*" was decided upon its peculiar merits, which depended upon a local act of parliament, the *dictum* of Dr. Lushington was merely *obiter*, and no decision of this particular point. The church in this case was one of a peculiar character, to which the ordinary principles of church-rate did not apply; the parishioners were the patrons, and there being no endowment, no other means existed of raising a proper provision for the minister than by a general rate. It had been decided that a parish, like any other corporation, had the power to make by-laws in a matter not for their own benefit, without custom or prescription; this was the matter set for the parishioners' own benefit, and the ground upon which the rate was claimed was that of a by-law. If this suit could not be maintained, the church must be shut up. This court ought not to refuse to exercise jurisdiction, and the other party might apply for a prohibition if he thought proper.

Sir H. JENNER took time to consider his judgment, and expressed a wish to have the parish records laid before him, in order that he might see whether it had been usual in former times to make the minister's stipend the subject of a separate assessment. In an entry in the year 1611, it appeared that there was an audit of separate accounts—"for repairs of the church," "for minister's wages," and "for the erection of a gallery." There might be some entries in those records that would throw a light on the case as far as related to including the minister's stipend in the church-rate.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Religious Freedom Society, have published a most excellent address to the friends of religious freedom; the following extracts will be read with interest, and are worthy the serious consideration of every dissenter:—

"We know that many have felt, within the pale as without it, that the religious establishments of our country worked ill in securing the confidence and loyalty of a people which they *tolerated* and oppressed. Some of our wisest legislators have proclaimed that reformation was still imperatively required in the social relations of our national churches. Statesmen as well as divines have ventured to speak of ritual alterations, and retrenchments, and change. But instead of encouraging those arrangements which the cause of religion and the welfare of the community demand, high churchmen, in all parts of the empire, seem determined, in the blindness of their zeal, to resist all measures of real and substantial reform. Forgetting their own position in relation to other portions of our present social system, they are boldly aspiring, not merely after independence, but supremacy. Clinging with the greatest tenacity to their official emoluments, while regardless of the conditions under which they were granted, they have, in certain instances, indignantly spurned the control of those secular authorities from which their



distinct ecclesiastical existence was derived, and under which, by the funds of the State, they are supported. A spiritual tyranny is thus fostered, which strives to trample down at once the rights of conscience and the rights of property among their fellow-men. Hence the insidious plans which have been broached of late on the subjects of church extension and sectarian education. Hence the necessity of church pastoral aid societies:—and hence it is that ecclesiastical courts, long dormant, have evoked from the dark ages the demon of religious strife, and uttered their fierce thunders, breaking in upon the sanctuary of widowed sorrow, and casting the conscientious dissembler into prison, because he may not contribute to rites and ceremonies of which in his soul he disapproves. Hence the strange anomaly which our establishments present:—the non-intrusionists of Scotland lifting up their voice against patronage, and at the same time kissing their political chains; while the Oxford divines are engaged in feverish efforts to revive that ancient divine right once wielded so effectually by the foreign Roman See. Hence the reaction of a strong-minded people!

"These, truly, are bewildering times for the church—more bewildering still for the state, which is wedded to its wide-spreading evils, its enormous incumbrances!"

"The path of the friends of religious freedom, at the present crisis, is clear, though attended with difficulties and discouragements: and that is, to demonstrate to our legislators that there is but one and the same strong feeling operating in the friends of religious freedom throughout the great communities of the empire—a determination to aid the popular cause by all legitimate means—to improve the condition of the people by enlightening them—thus to prepare them, through moral and religious freedom, for civil liberty and enfranchisement. It is on these grounds that we summon around us the friends of religion and good government.

"If we believe that christianity is a divine dispensation from the great parent of the human race—that it is an imperishable element in social progress—if it came from the lips of its heavenly author as the proclamation of spiritual freedom for every child of Adam—if it existed independently and in despite of civil authorities, until an interested priesthood sacrificed its integrity at the shrine of Mammon and of worldly power—if we find, from the history of christianity, that its perversion, and the consequent retardation of human progress, have arisen from its alliance with secular governments—our bounden duty, in obedience to the great and true Head of the church, is to attend to His divine instruction in all things pertaining to humanity as well as to godliness, and to guard against those temptations which governments may hold out, and the tide which a fashionable exhibition of ritual worship may float around us, to draw us aside into unconscious conformity. Whilst it is our duty to bear in a christian spirit, but with no marks of servile contentment, the contrasted humiliations to which as dissenters we are exposed—the bitter persecutions which are directed against us; yet we must not place in jeopardy those rights of free inquiry and of individual judgment in which our civilization is wrapped up. It is our duty as christians and as good citizens, while we disown those, as far as in us lies, the ecclesiastical corruptions which have sprung up in connection with ancient political usurpations, and which hang as dead weights on our national prosperity—it is our privilege, as it is our happiness, to offer a willing, and generous, and efficient service for the public good, ever bearing in mind the important precept of our divine master, which contains in itself the union of a rational loyalty and of a respectful dissent, to 'render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, and unto God the things that are God's.'"

In the case of church-rates, held last week in the Consistorial court of Norwich, from the parish of St. Margaret's, Lynn, a point of great importance was in this case raised, and so far as the judgment of the court extends, decided. It has been commonly held, that in questions of church-rates, the justices have jurisdiction, and the ecclesiastical courts have none, when the party neglecting to pay has not *himself* disputed the validity of the rate. The present defendants had accordingly pleaded that they had never disputed the validity, that they had been summoned before the justices, and dismissed because the plaintiffs were not prepared to prove their case by producing the rate; that they had always been ready to pay the rate, had tendered it after they were cited to this court, and were, therefore, not within the jurisdiction of the court. Their allegation pleading these facts was now rejected as irrelevant, and the effect of this is, to decide that where a church-rate has by *any person* been disputed in an ecclesiastical court, the justices have no longer any jurisdiction, and proceedings for recovery against any parishioners can be only taken in the ecclesiastical courts.—*Essex Herald*.

On Monday last, a considerable number of the more respectable dissenters of Westbury, appeared at the town-hall, in obedience to summonses previously served, to answer the complaint of the churchwardens, of having refused to pay (what they are pleased to call) a church rate, duly assessed, and justly due. All refused to pay, and most of them declined to state any reason for the course they seemed deliberately to take; as though all felt, if might was to overcome right, they had better submit to "the spoiling of their goods" at home than be victimised in prison at a distance.—*Wiltshire Independent*.

A church rate of 6d. in the pound was made at a public vestry in Aylesbury church, on Friday last. There was no opposition, the usual annual opponent being a quarter of an hour after the stated time, and just soon enough to meet the triumphant church bigots returning from their work of robbery and labour of love.—*Aylesbury News*.

A parish meeting was held at Nether Thong, near Holmfirth, on Wednesday last to lay a church rate, Mr. George Robinson in the chair. The churchwarden came forward and proposed a rate of 1d. in the pound for sundry repairs. It was some time before an individual could be found to second the motion of the worthy functionary. An amendment was then proposed by Mr. Godfrey Mellor, and immediately seconded, that this meeting should adjourn to that day twelve-months. Only a single hand was held up for the rate, and the amendment was triumphantly carried.

We learn from the *Nottingham Mercury*, that on Sunday last a large congregation assembled in the parish church of a rich rectory, in order to hear divine service read. "After the bells had rung a considerable time," says our contemporary, "no clergyman made his appearance." Inquiry was made as to the cause of his absence, when it was found that the minister of God had gone out on a shooting excursion! What will Sir Andrew Agnew say to this?—*Sun*.

CHURCH EXTENSION.—The parish of Colne, in Huntingdonshire, is worthy the attention of Sir Robert Inglis. Its population is upwards of 500. It has a resident clergyman. The tithes amount to about 500/- a year, received by Dr. Turton. *There is not a single inhabitant that pays poor's rates who attends the church service.* Only a few paupers who occupy the church land attend. The parish is celebrated for the virtue of its inhabitants; the poor are well attended to, and peace

and prosperity flourish. The dissenting minister of the adjoining parish lives in the affections of the people at Colne. Archbishops, bishops, deans, prebends, and all other ecclesiastica, are useless and unnecessary to the well being of this happy parish.

SLAVERY.

TO THE FRIENDS OF IMMEDIATE EMANCIPATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

HAVING visited your country as an humble fellow labourer in the great cause in which you are engaged, and which, through trials and difficulties a stranger can scarcely appreciate, you have so zealously maintained. I have had a pleasing and satisfactory interview with many of you with reference to future exertions, in co-operation with those of other lands who unite with you in regarding slaveholding and slave trading as a heinous sin in the sight of God which should be immediately abolished. It is the especial privilege of those who are labouring in such a cause to feel that "every country is their country, and every man their brother," and to live above the atmosphere of sectional jealousy and national hostility; and hence I feel an assurance that you will receive with kindness a few lines from me on the eve of my departure to my native land.

You concur generally in opinion, that in endeavouring to obtain the great object we have in view it is very important that the friends of the cause should be united, not only in principle, but, as far as may be, in the character of the measures which they pursue; and I have been much encouraged in finding that you have generally adopted the sentiment so rapidly spreading on the other side of the Atlantic—"that there is no reasonable hope of abolishing the slave trade but by the abolition of slavery, and that no measures should be pursued for its attainment but those which are of a moral, religious, and pacific character." The progress of emancipation in Europe has been, beyond a doubt, greatly retarded by leaving slavery and the slaveholder unmarked by public reprobation, and concentrating all the energies of philanthropy upon a fruitless effort to abolish the slave trade. And in this country the colonization scheme, with its delusive promise of good to Africa, and its vague anticipations of putting an end to the slave trade by armed colonies on the coast of that ill-fated continent, has been the means of obstructing emancipation at home, of unprofitably absorbing the energies and blinding the judgment of many sincere friends of the slave, and strengthening the unchristian prejudice against colour. The abolitionists of Europe, with few exceptions, have seen the error of their former course of action, and are now striking directly at the root, instead of lopping at the branches of slavery; and if further evidence of the evil tendency and character of colonization is needed in the United States, the recent proceeding of a meeting of the Maryland Society at Baltimore must convince all who are friendly to the true interests of the people of colour, that it is a scheme deserving only the support of the enemies of freedom.*

The rapid progress of public opinion, as to the iniquity of slavery and the entire safety as well as advantage of its immediate abolition—the attention which has been awakened to it in all parts of the civilised world—the movements in France, Spain, Brazil, and Denmark, and other countries, with slave-holding dependencies, all indicating that the days of slavery are numbered, should serve to encourage and stimulate us to increased exertions; and while it is a cause of profound regret, that anything should have disturbed the harmony and unity of the real friends of emancipation in this country—the hardest battle-field of our moral warfare—I am not without hope that in future, those, who from a conscientious difference of opinion, not as to the object, but the precise mode of obtaining it, cannot act in one united band, will laudably emulate each other in the promotion of our common cause, and in christian forbearance upon points of disagreement; and that where they cannot praise, they will be careful not to censure those who by a different road are earnestly pursuing the same end. Without entering into the controversies which have divided our friends on this side the water, I believe it would be nothing more than a simple act of justice for me to state on my return to Europe, my conviction that a large portion of the abolitionists of the United States, who approve of the proceedings of the late General Anti-slavery Convention, and are desirous of acting in unity with the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society, from the general identity of their practice as well as principles with those of the British and Foreign Society, are entitled to the sympathies, and deserving of the confidence and co-operation of the abolitionists of Great Britain. It has been my pleasure to meet, in a kindly interchange of opinion, many valuable and devoted friends of emancipation, who, while dissenting from the class above-mentioned in some respects, are nevertheless disposed to cultivate feelings of charity and good-will towards all who are sincerely labouring for the slaves. And in this connexion I may state, that neither on behalf of myself or of my esteemed coadjutors in Great Britain, am I disposed to recriminate upon another class of abolitionists who on some points have so far differed from the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Committee, and the great majority of the Convention above-mentioned, as to sustain their representatives in refusing to act with that Convention, and in protesting against its proceedings; and who have seen fit to censure the committee in their public meetings and newspapers in this country, as "arbitrary and despotic," and their conduct as "unworthy of men claiming the character of abolitionists."

As a corresponding member of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery committee and intimately acquainted with its proceedings, I am persuaded that its members have acted wisely and consulted the best interest of the cause in which they were engaged, in generally leaving unnoticed any censures that have been cast upon them while in the prosecution of their labours. Yet, before leaving this country, I deem it right to bear my testimony to the great anxiety of that committee faithfully to discharge the duties committed to their trust;

* The following resolution was passed at the meeting of the Maryland Society above alluded to:—

"That while it is most earnestly hoped that the free coloured people of Maryland may see that their best and most permanent interests will be consulted by their emigration from this state; and while this convention would deprecate any departure from the principle which makes colonization dependent upon the voluntary action of the free coloured people themselves—yet, if regardless of what has been done to provide them with an asylum, they continue to persist in remaining in Maryland, in the hope of enjoying here an equality of social and political rights, they ought to be solemnly warned, that, in the opinion of this convention, a day must arrive when circumstances that cannot be controlled, and which are now maturing, will deprive them of choice, and leave them no alternative but removal."

and to state that it has never been my privilege to be united to a body more desirous of keeping simply to the one great object of their association—the total and immediate abolition of slavery and the slave trade. I am persuaded that all candid minds, making due allowance for the imperfections pertaining to human associations, will feel their confidence in the future integrity of that committee increased in proportion as they closely investigate their past acts; and that, even when the wisdom of their course may have been questioned, they will accord to them a scrupulous honesty of purpose.

The first public suggestion of a general anti-slavery convention like the one held last year in London, originated, I believe, on this side of the Atlantic, although the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society, took upon themselves the heavy responsibility of convening it. At its close, they invited an expression of the opinion of the delegates, as to the desirableness of again summoning such an assembly. The expression was generally in the affirmative; and after discussion a resolution was passed, leaving it to the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society, after consulting with the friends of the cause in other parts of the world, to decide this important question as well as the time and place of its meeting, should another convention be resolved upon.

Since I have been in the United States, I have found those abolitionists who approved the principles and proceedings of the late convention so generally in favour of another, and of London as its place of meeting, that the only question seemed to be whether it should be held in 1842 or 1843. This expression of opinion is I know so generally in accordance with the views of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Committee, and of many other prominent abolitionists in Europe, that I have little doubt they will feel encouraged to act upon it, probably at the latter period. There is abundant and increasing evidence of the powerful beneficial influence of the late convention upon almost every part of the world where slavery is still tolerated; and we are encouraged to hope that the one in anticipation will be still more efficient for the promotion of universal liberty.

Painful as has been to me the spectacle of many of the leading influences of the ecclesiastical bodies in this country, either placed in direct hostility to, or acting as a drag upon, the wheel of the anti-slavery enterprise—and of the manifest preponderance of a slave-holding influence in the councils of the state—I am not one of those who despair of a healthful renovation of public sentiment which shall purify church as well as state from this abomination. There are decided indications that all efforts of counsels and synods to unite “pure religion and undefiled” with a slave trading and slave-holding counterfeit of Christianity, must ere long utterly fail. And it is to me a matter of joy, as it must be to every friend of impartial liberty and free institutions, that the citizens of this republic are more and more feeling that the plague-spot of slavery, as with the increased facilities of communication its horrors and deformity become more apparent in the eyes of the world, is fixing a deep disgrace upon the character of their country, and paralysing the beneficial influence which might otherwise flow from it as an example of a well regulated free government. May each American citizen who is desirous of washing away this disgrace, to whatever division of the anti-slavery host he may attach himself, ever bear in mind that the cause is of too tremendous and pressing a nature to admit of his wasting his time in censuring and impeding the progress of those who may array themselves under a somewhat different standard from his own; and that any energies thus wasted, which belong to the one great object, so far as human instrumentality is concerned, is not only deferring the day of freedom to two and a half millions of his countrymen, but, inasmuch as the fall of American slavery must be the death-blow to the horrid system wherever it exist, the result of the struggle here involves the slavery or freedom of millions in other parts of the world—as well as the continuance or suppression of that slave-trade, to the foreign branch of which alone more than ONE THOUSAND VICTIMS ARE DAILY SACRIFICED, and in reference to which it has justly been said, “that all that has been borne to Africa of the boasted improvements of civilised life is a masterly skill in the contrivance, and an unhesitating daring in the commission of crimes which the mind of the savage was too simple to devise, and his heart too gentle to execute.” There are no doubtful indications that it is the will of Him, who has the hearts of all at his disposal, that either in judgment or in mercy, this dreadful system shall ere long cease. It is not for us to say why, in His inscrutable wisdom, He has thus far permitted one portion of His creatures so cruelly to oppress another; or by what instrumentality He will at length redress the wrongs of the poor, and the oppression of the needy; but should the worst fears of one of your most distinguished citizens, who in view of this subject acknowledged that he “trembled for his country, when he remembered that God was just,” be finally realised, may each one of you feel that no exertions on your part have been wanting to avert the Divine displeasure, and preserve your land from those calamities which in all ages have rebuked the crimes of nations.

Your sincere friend,
Boston, 7th month 31st, 1841.

JOSEPH STURGE.

HORRORS OF THE SLAVE SYSTEM.

TO J. H. TREDGOLD, ESQ., SECRETARY TO THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

Havanna, June 28, 1841.

SIR.—In my last, of 5th and 13th May, per Pigeon packet, I informed you that the Portuguese slaver *Aguila* (the property of Messrs. Fernandez, Pozo, and Co., hardware-merchants of this city) had been wrecked at the port of Cabanos, in this island, and about 470 of the surviving victims had been seized by the authorities, and conducted in safety to this port. I now beg leave to communicate to you some further particulars relative to this unprecedented occurrence.

It would appear that many of those persons to whom the Captain-general's circular was addressed, had believed that his Excellency was sincere in ordering that everything possible should be done for the effectual suppression of the slave trade; the consequence was, that the order was seconded by the Captain-general of Marine, and by the Intendant, who directed the subaltern officers of their respective departments to yield implicit obedience to the very letter of the order contained in the circular.

It had scarcely been issued when the brig *Trueno* arrived, after having landed 450 Africans on the coast. The captain of the port, and the health officer, Doctor Francisco de Orta, immediately reported to the Captain-

general the arrival of the *Trueno*, and informed him that there were strong suspicions of her having come from the coast of Africa, and of her having landed negroes on the island. The vessel was subjected to quarantine by the captain of the port, at the suggestion of the health-officer, until the Captain-general should determine on what course to pursue. Two days were allowed to pass over without anything being done by the Captain-general towards instituting an inquiry into the case; in the meantime the owners of the vessel were enabled, through the connivance of the authorities, to discharge every article from on board which could tend to prove the fact of her being actually a slaver; and when the inquiry was instituted, as was anticipated, nothing was proved. The vessel has again been fitted out, and is now ready for sea.

A very few days only had elapsed after the case of the *Trueno*, when the *Aguila* was wrecked at Cabanos, or, as it is positively asserted, was chased on shore by one of our cruisers. In the attempt to land the negroes, upwards of thirty were drowned and the remainder were seized by D. Jose Lunar, the commanding officer of the Intendant's revenue guard, stationed at Cabanos. Don Jose Lunar immediately dispatched an express to the Intendant, giving him information of their capture, and the Intendant, without loss of time, communicated it to the Captain-general, who sent the steam boat *Tacon* to Cabanos, and had them brought to this port, where they arrived the following day. On their arrival here, the Captain-general summoned the mixed court to assemble, and offered to hand over the negroes for adjudication by that court, according to the regulations of the treaty; but, strange to say, the English Commissary Judge, Mr. Kennedy, in conjunction with his Spanish colleague, the Assessor Pinanso, refused to admit this most laudable offer of the Captain-general, declaring that the mixed court had no power whatever over them, nor had it any right to interfere with them, in consequence of their having been seized on shore, by the authorities of the island.

This is the substance of the opinion expressed by the English Commissary Judge, at the meeting of the court, and I am credibly informed that he was the only member who evinced any desire to prevent the court from interfering.

This most extraordinary proceeding, if not in direct opposition to the letter of the treaty (?) is certainly opposed to the object and spirit of its regulations. The mere circumstance of the Captain-general's having addressed himself to the mixed court on the subject is sufficient to prove, that, if Mr. Kennedy had wished to do so, the court might with every propriety have taken charge of, and passed sentence of emancipation on those unfortunate persons, by which they would have been placed under the protection of the British government, in conformity with the 13th article of the treaty. But now, in consequence of the mixed court not having considered themselves bound to take cognizance of the case, it becomes purely a Spanish question, with which, perhaps it may hereafter be contended that we have not a right to interfere, because the English Commissary Judge had already decreed the non-interference of the Court of mixed commission.

The Spanish Commissary Judge is the Captain-general's Lieutenant-governor and Assessor-general, and it is by no means probable that he would have opposed the interference of the mixed court, particularly after the offer which was made to it by the Captain-general.

This deplorable event, proceeding no doubt from want of proper zeal on the part of the English Commissary Judge, has caused the Captain-general to emancipate these negroes on his own authority and in his own way. Forty-eight hours after the sentence of emancipation was passed, his Excellency in defiance of all laws, human and divine, caused them to be reduced to the very worst sort of slavery which the world has ever known, by selling them to planters, owners of sugar estates, for the term of five years, for nine ounces (of gold) for a male, and seven ounces for a female.

To whom shall we appeal for redress, when Englishmen who are sent here for the special purpose of suppressing the slave trade, and watching over the fulfilment of the treaty, contribute by their own conduct, to deeds so prejudicial to its object?

It is rumoured that the case of the negroes by the *Aguila* has caused a misunderstanding between the Captain-general and the Intendant, and the result will be that he will not again interpose his authority towards a fulfilment of the Captain-general's jesuitical orders. Indeed, it is said that the revenue coast guards have already received a written order to wink at the disembarkation of negroes.

There were thirty-eight Africans drowned on board the wreck of the *Aguila* at Cabanos. These unfortunate victims of the cruelty and cupidity of the slave-dealer were the finest and most robust of the men comprising the cargo. Their unprincipled oppressors, who had not forgotten the case of the *Amistad*, and fearing a similar attempt on board of the *Aguila*, had secured them in the hold in fetters, attached to a heavy rod of iron, and when the vessel struck the reef, she filled so fast with water that these poor creatures were allowed to perish without an effort being made to save them.

I cannot refrain from calling your attention to another circumstance extremely prejudicial to the cause of African freedom in this country, and which I submit is well deserving the attention of your society, in order through its influence to cleanse from the pollution of slave-holding the British name in this country. I allude to Mr. Clarke, the consul at Santiago de Cuba, who is also the principal manager of one of the copper mines in that place which is worked at this moment by 400 of the unfortunate victims of slave-dealing cupidity. With what grace can we appeal to the world in behalf of this interesting race of persons, when our own public officers contribute to the continuation of slavery, and the consequent degradation of our fellow-man?

Surely it must appear clear to the British government, as well as to yourselves, that the man who is either directly or indirectly the holder of slaves, cannot be a fit person to represent the British nation in this country, where the most active and untiring exertions are daily and hourly required to suppress the frightful progress of the slave trade. What was the use of removing Mr. Hardy, if you were to appoint his successor in the management of the copper mines at St. Jago in his stead, and above all, why remove Mr. Joline from the Havanna—a man remarkable for the suavity of his manners and gentleness of his disposition, if not for the austerity of his abolition principles—when at the other end of the island such men as Hardy and Clarke were left at full liberty to wield the cart-whip and the cow-hide?

It was only yesterday that I heard a worthy native, an abolitionist of my acquaintance, declare that the greater part of the British functionaries resident in this island might be compared to the priests, who preach the morality they do not practise. “Do as I bid you, but do not follow my example,” is a doctrine from which no good can come, and such practices afford an obvious excuse for those of the slave-holders.

I have just been informed that our consul has succeeded in rescuing from slavery a British subject, a native of Jamaica, originally of free condition, who was stolen at that island about ten years ago, and brought to this by a Spaniard, named Jose Antonio le Desma. It is to be hoped that the zeal and activity for which Mr. Turnbull is so well known will enable him to rescue many others who still exist in this island in the same state of degradation.

I am, respectfully, Sir, your most obedient servant,

P. S. It is currently reported, and believed, that the amount produced by the sale of Africans by the *Aguila* has been handed over to Messrs. Fernandez, Pozo, and Co., as a remuneration to them for their losses.

GENERAL POLITICS.

FOREIGN.

AMERICA.—The royal mail steamer Caledonia, Captain M'Kellar, arrived at Liverpool from Boston and Halifax on Saturday morning at 5 o'clock. She left the former port at noon on the 1st, and Halifax in the evening of the 3d inst. The voyage from Boston to Liverpool occupied 12 days and 17 hours, and that from Halifax 9 days and 23 hours. The Caledonia has brought upwards of 90 passengers. The bank bill had passed the Senate after prolonged debates. The final vote was 26 to 23. The bill was immediately sent to the House of Representatives, where it was read a first, and ordered to be read a second time. In the House, as in the Senate, the "compulsory power" would, it was thought, be the main point on which debate would spring up. Still the measure was considered certain to pass. Whether, after having passed the Senate and the House of Representatives, the President would give it his sanction, was still considered doubtful. The loan bill, empowering the executive to raise 12,000,000 dollars for the service of the union, had also passed the Senate. The *Oneida Observer* confirms the rumour that the case of M'Leod would not be brought before the Court of Errors of New York. The Senate having, during the session of last winter, expressed an opinion on the main question, in the form of a resolution, little prospect was offered of a change of the decision of the Supreme Court on the prisoner's case. That court had, on the application of M'Leod's counsel, granted an order changing the *venue* for his trial to Oneida county. The trial would not take place until September. M'Leod was in charge of the sheriff of Oneida county, in whose custody he would remain until his trial, which, it was said, he was anxious should take place as soon as possible, being entirely confident of his ability to furnish the most conclusive proof that he had no participation in the outrage for which he stands indicted. The trade of New York was dull, it being the period of the year when merchants and traders do not resort to the city. The principal change in the market had been in flour, which had advanced. The news by the Great Western had not had any influence on cotton. Money continued abundant at New York, large balances were accumulating in the banks, and very little paper was offering. For specie there was no demand for export, and the banks had large amounts in their vaults.

FRANCE.—Tranquillity continues at Toulouse, but in the department of the Lot resistance to the new fiscal measures has been strongly demonstrated. The *Emancipation* of Toulouse of the 11th inst. states that the municipal councils of Villenouvelle and Montesquieu protested against them on the 10th inst., and voted a congratulatory address to the members of the late municipality of Toulouse. The national guards, on their side, were preparing an address to their comrades of that city. The census was the occasion of some disorders at St. Livrade, near Villeneuve d'Agen, on the 10th. The tocsin was rung by the exasperated population, and the peasantry of the neighbourhood having flocked into the town, the revenue officers were compelled to hide themselves and effect their escape to Agen.—The *Gazette du Languedoc* states that symptoms of discontent had appeared in one of the battalions of the line at Toulouse. It was added, that the officers were equally dissatisfied, as they could not understand the necessity for the severe duty to which they were subjected, whilst the population continued so peaceable and inoffensive.—The *Feuille de Cambrai* of the 10th instant announces an incendiary fire in that neighbourhood, which in less than 20 minutes consumed nine dwelling-houses, and the properties of 12 families. The carbineers, who were stationed at Crevecoeur, displayed on this melancholy occasion a zeal and intrepidity which elicited public acknowledgment. *La Presse* states, that the commercial crisis which had been for some weeks imminent is now beginning to be manifest. The first symptom of commercial distress, continues *La Presse*, is to be found amongst the dealers in colonial produce, and such is the depression in the colonial markets, that the ship Lafayette, which sailed a short time since from Guadaloupe, was obliged to return in ballast.

SPAIN.—The Madrid mails and papers of the 6th and 7th inst., have been received. The resignation of the Captain-general Palafox, Duke of Saragossa, is officially communicated to the French Government by the following telegraphic dispatch, which was published in the *Messager* of Thursday night, and in the *Moniteur* of Friday:—"Bayonne, August 11.—The Sub-prefect to the Minister of the Interior.—On the 8th the Captain-general Palafox gave in his resignation as Commandant-general of the Royal Guard, which post was conferred the same day on General Pedro Chacon." Private letters state that tranquillity continued to prevail at Madrid; but it was rumoured in various quarters that a conspiracy had been formed to murder Espartero, and carry off the young Queen and her sister to a place of security, until Queen Christina could return and re-assume the reins of Government. Such is the excitement prevalent among all classes of society, that the Government has resolved upon resorting to the most rigorous measures for repressing any manifestation of feeling, and as the Moderados consider that their cause has been outraged by Espartero's manifesto in reply to Queen Christina's protest, serious apprehensions are entertained that the consequences will prove fatal. Intrigue is doing her handy work, and party spirit is at the highest pitch. It is impossible to predict what may ultimately ensue. The capitalists who had been invited by the Government to make offers for the advance of eight millions of reals, were ready to come forward with 18 millions, but on conditions to which it could not accede, and, consequently, the affair has dropped to the ground. The financial position of the country is such, that no monied men will run the risk of making advances but on the most exorbitant terms; and the resources of the nation are already too crippled to enable the Government to accede to them.

COLONIAL.

AFRICA.—Intelligence has been received at the India Board of the arrival of the East India Company's armed iron steam-boats Nimrod and Nitocris at Beles, on the Euphrates, on the 31st May. The actual distance of the voyage up the river was 1,130 miles; the ascent occupied 273 hours, or about nineteen days and a half. The average rate of steaming was three miles and seven furlongs an hour. The expedition was commanded by Lieutenant Campbell, assisted by Lieutenants Jones and Grounds. The behaviour of the crews was most exemplary, and not a single casualty occurred during the whole voyage.

AUSTRALIA.—Papers from Hobart Town to the 12th April give intelligence of the exploring expedition to the South Pole, conducted by Captain Ross and Captain Crozier, in the Queen's ships Erebus and Terror. It appears to have been highly successful. The vessels penetrated by the 2d February to within what was supposed to be 100 miles of the magnetic pole, namely, 78 deg. 4 min. south latitude, and 173 deg. 12 min. west longitude. This is four degrees beyond the point reached either by the American or the French exploring expeditions; but the further prosecution of the voyage was necessarily postponed by the appearance of an immense field of ice, 150 feet high, which was traced 300 miles eastward. The vessels had returned safe to Hobart Town, and would upon the breaking up of the ice make an attempt to get still further. It is mentioned that the spots marked down by the American expedition were distinctly described, but that in one instance a singular error was discovered; the Erebus and Terror having sailed over whole tracts laid down by the previous navigators as land.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

A Court of Conservancy of the river was held at Guildhall on Thursday. The Recorder presided. The jury made a presentment, in which they reported an obstruction from barges moored outside the piles in front of the wharfs, from London bridge to the Temple; and they recommended the erection of new piles, better to define the boundaries within which craft may be moored. They then reported an obstruction caused by the floating pier on the north east side of Blackfriars bridge, which impedes the navigation of the river, and is unsafe in itself. It is understood that a new pier is to be constructed at Blackfriars bridge similar to the one at Southwark bridge.

On Thursday last Sir I. Brunel passed through the Thames tunnel, and ascended into the shaft on the Middlesex side of the river. The small portion of the distance, about twenty-five feet, now incomplete, is connected with the shaft on the Middlesex side of the river by a driftway, through which, at the end of the tunnel, Sir I. B. passed. About an hour afterwards Mr. Hawes, M.P., and Mr. Hutton, late M.P. for Dublin, also walked from Rotherhithe, through the tunnel and the driftway, to Wapping. Thus the great problem of the practicability of forming a road-way under the Thames, without interrupting the navigation is solved. In a few months it is expected that one of the archways will be open for foot passengers.

At Worship street, on Monday, a number of poor people were charged with having been found sleeping under the arches of the Eastern Counties railway. On examination it came out that the inhabitants of no less than fourteen houses in Hope street, Spitalfields, nearly two hundred in number, were turned into the streets last week by a broker, on the ground of their rents being in arrears. These houses have lain a long time empty of regular tenants, owing to their ownership being a matter of dispute at law; and they have gradually become full of persons who retreated to them in hopes of living rent-free for a time. On Friday they were every one, without an instant's warning, driven out of their rooms; many who were absent from home losing their furniture and property in the confusion and scramble. They had removed in a body and encamped under the railway, and had put up boxes with inscriptions describing their misery, and begging charity.

A steam-carriage, on an improved principle, belonging to the General Steam Company, was on Saturday last tried on the road between the north-eastern point of the Regent's-park and the Manor-house at Tottenham. The carriage has four transverse seats, each of which accommodates four persons; the boiler and apparatus is behind the seats; the conductor, who has the management of the carriage, sits on the front seat and guides it, and governs its speed by a sort of handle, which rises from the foot-board. The carriage left the York and Albany tavern a little after four o'clock, and proceeded with a full load of scientific gentlemen to the Manor-house, Tottenham; here it was turned round with perfect facility by the conductor, and it returned to the York and Albany tavern. The distance is between eight and nine miles; it was traversed in rather less than half an hour. The road undulates considerably, and there are some steep ascents; the speed up hill was twelve miles an hour; on level ground it was fourteen; and on the descents sixteen or eighteen miles. The carriage was turned round when going at the rate of ten miles an hour. The conductor had a perfect command of the carriage, and caused it to pass between carriages drawn by horses, carts, &c., with which some portions of the road were crowded, without coming in contact with any of them, and with a facility of management that was surprising. The appearance of the carriage and the rapidity of its motion caused several horses to shy, but no accident ensued. There is no visible escape of steam, nor is there any annoyance from smoke. The trip was very satisfactory, and it appears certain that a carriage of this sort can be used on any roads.

PROVINCIAL.

On Thursday the friends of free trade at Warrington gave a splendid dinner in the Reformers' Hall, Bewsey street, in honour of James Kershaw, Esq., a candidate at the late election for the representation of that borough on free trade principles. Upwards of 300 gentlemen were present, among whom, besides the principal guest, Mr. Kershaw, were Sir Thomas Potter, Knt., of Buile-hill; Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P. for Stockport; Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P. for Ashton-under-Lyne; Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M.P. for Salford; W. Allard, Esq.; James Crosfield, Esq.; W. Stubbs, Esq.; James Stubbs, Esq.; Rev. H. Hutton; George Crosfield, Esq.; John Rylands, Esq.; &c. Holbrook Gaskell, Esq. presided.

We announce with very great concern the sudden death of Wm. Cunliffe Lister, Esq., the recently elected liberal member for Bradford. The hon. and learned gentleman died on Thursday night, at Farfield House, near Addingham, of rheumatic fever, with which he was seized in consequence of exposure to wet and cold while on a shooting excursion. So sudden and violent was the disease, that a physician who was summoned from Leeds to attend him had not time to reach Addingham, but was met by a messenger at Guiseley to say that Mr. Lister had expired. We possess no information at present as to the intentions of the two parties in Bradford; but we hope that William Busfield, Esq., of Upwood, the old reform member, will be again placed in the situation where he earned so much of the respect of all parties. —Leeds Mercury.

We understand that a tory firm of manufacturers of Stockport, in a spirit of revenge excited by their irretrievable defeat at the late election, are discharging from their works every individual, however excellent a hand or exemplary a character, of the catholic persuasion.—*Stockport Chronicle*.

At a public entertainment given by the electors of Derby to Mr. Strutt and Mr. Ponsonby, their representatives, Lord Waterpark, in alluding to the unscrupulous intimidation of the tories, read the following letter addressed to one of the electors of South Derbyshire, for the representation of which his lordship was a candidate:—

“ Wirksworth Committee-room, 28th June, 1841.

“ Thomas Frost—I am very sorry to hear that you are likely to offend your old master, by allowing your son to vote for Gisborne and Waterpark; because he had spoken to me about obtaining for you the premium for long service at the next agricultural meeting, in which I should assist him; and I should be very sorry if you should lose 4*l. 4s.* by any such proceedings. Yours truly, “ R. CRESSWELL.

“ To Mr. Thomas Frost, Middleton.”—This is a genuine sample of tory toleration.

The number of sheep required for the iron works between Abergavenny and Cardiff is less by 2,000 per week than it was twelve months ago. There is also a vast decrease in the sale of veal and beef. This is in consequence of the workmen still refusing to give more than 4*sd.* per lb.—*Welshman*.

We lately gave a statement of the deliveries of raw sugar in this port, from the 1st of January to the 24th of July, by which it will be perceived that the West India amounted, in 1841, to 39,301 hogsheads and tierces, current price 3*lb. 0*sd.** per cwt.; in 1840, to 57,340 hogsheads and tierces, current price 5*lb. 2*sd.** per cwt. Mauritius, in 1841, 224,177 bags; in 1840, 356,992 bags. The consumption of sugar, therefore, is one-third less, with a fall in price of one-third, which can only be accounted for by the diminished means of the people to consume it, from high prices of the other necessities of life, and want of employment.—*Liverpool Times*.

The state of the poor in this city, we regret to state, is more gloomy than ever. What with short work and the increasing price of bread, we hardly know how some of our operatives keep “ life and soul ” together; and yet many of them were so infatuated as to vote for the man who is pledged to advocate a tax upon their bread. Poor fellows! they will soon learn by bitter experience the fallacy of the tory doctrine that dear bread makes high wages, or, what is synonymous, plenty of work.—*Worcester Chronicle*.

The commercial distress which has so long prevailed in the neighbourhood of Dudley is beginning to bear its fruits in a disposition to rioting on the part of the colliers. A great number of furnaces have been blown out; and a decrease in the consumption of coal occurring, many of the miners have been put upon short time, and are now only employed three or four days a week. In addition to a decrease of labour, the masters signified their intention of reducing the wages of one class of workmen, called the thin coal miners, from 3*s.* to 2*s. 9*sd.** a day. This reduction the men resolved upon resisting, and on Wednesday and Thursday they congregated, and proceeded to several pits where some men continued working, and endeavoured to dissuade them from continuing at the reduced price. At some of the works the men turned out, but at others the masters and butties resisted; and the mob becoming strong, on Thursday they proceeded to cut the ropes at some of the pits; fights ensued between the parties, and the police were called out. They, however, were found insufficient, and fears being entertained that more serious depredations would be committed, the magistrates sent an express to Birmingham for a troop of soldiers. On their arrival the main body of the mob had dispersed. One young man, a native of Wolverhampton, said to be the leader, was apprehended, and committed in the evening to take his trial at the sessions.—*Morning Chronicle*.

The bank of Manchester, which for some time past has been the only joint-stock bank of issue in the county of Lancashire, has come to a resolution to withdraw its notes payable to bearer on demand, and to cease any further issues from this time. The bank was established in the year 1828, and commenced its issues shortly afterwards, and having given the principle a fair trial, and finding that a circulation of local notes is objectionable in that county, its directors have at length prudently decided to discontinue their issues, and to use hereafter the notes of the Bank of England only.—*Post*.

If the prospect last week was gloomy it is much more so now, “ rain, rain, rain,” being still the order of the day; and there does not appear much probability of a favourable change being near at hand. It is impossible to tell the amount of injury which may ensue if the rain continues much longer, but at present much grain must be laid, which we fear will never recover.—*Worcestershire Chronicle*.

The crops have made more progress towards maturity than under the circumstances could have been expected, and should the weather prove favourable a good deal of wheat and barley will be cut next week. In some places the wheat is ripening a good colour, but the greater part is dark, and more or less blighted. The quantity of straw being larger than either of the past three years, will in some measure make up for the deficiency which, from the continuance of wet and lateness of the season, will be found in the yield.—*Letter from Warwickshire*.

Nothing can be more varied than the accounts received from all parts of the country of the state of the crops, and of the effects produced on them by the excessively changeable weather. Everywhere hopes have been damped by the unseasonable cold and rain that we find have been prevalent throughout the country; those hopes have frequently been revived by the appearance of a day or two of fair weather, only to be again damped by the return of heavy and incessant showers.—*Bucks. Gazette*.

The harvest will be rather late; we do not expect to see much wheat cut until the 18th or 20th. The barley crop will be a very good one, except in some situations, where, in consequence of the frequent showers that have fallen within the last two months, it appears to be very long in the straw, and rather weak, which generally brings a poor sample. It is very probable the crop will be above an average one.—*Western Times*.

Invitations to the British Association of Science have been conveyed from Manchester, requesting that the meeting next year should be held in that town. On the motion of the Marquis of Northampton, Lord Francis Egerton, M.P., was appointed President; the Dean of Manchester, Dr. Dalton, Dr. Henry, Professor Sedgwick, and Sir Benjamin Heywood, vice-presidents; and Dr. Fleming, Mr. Peter Clare, Mr. W. Ormerod, and Mr. J. Heywood, secretaries. It was also resolved that the meeting be held in June, as most convenient for the local officers. An invitation was also read for the meeting for 1843 to be held at York, where the association was first established in 1830. The sections were thinly attended this year.

IRELAND.

A meeting to address Lord Morpeth was held in the Royal Exchange. The principal persons who attended it, and occupied the platform were Colonel White, M.P., Sir W. Somerville, M.P., Mr. G. Roe, Mr. J. Power, Sir T. Esmonde, Mr. D. R. Ross, of Rosstrevor; Mr. Carew O'Dwyer, the Hon. Cecil Lawless, Sir J. Kennedy, Messrs. Archbold, M'Loughlin, Grehim, and Curtis, Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Fitzsimon, Mr. Barrett, Mr. Nugent, Surgeon White, J. D. Muller, Mr. Steele, Sir A. Clarke, Mr. F. T. Porter, Dr. Kelley, &c. The Duke of Leinster having been moved to the chair, a series of resolutions were moved and adopted, setting forth that the services of Lord Morpeth in the cause of civil and religious liberty, and his well known attachment to the people of Ireland, entitled him to a marked demonstration of national confidence and regard; and that the meeting deplore the recent event which deprived the country of the noble lord's services in the House of Commons as a misfortune of no ordinary kind to the empire at large, and especially to Ireland.

Lord Morpeth has accepted an invitation to a public dinner, which is to “ come off ” on Thursday, September 9, on which occasion the address agreed to at the public meeting is to be presented to his lordship.

On Saturday last, upwards of twenty thousand persons assembled in the Square of Dungarvan, Carlow, for the purpose of appointing repeal wardens, and taking measures to collect the “ Carlow indemnity fund.” Messrs. Reynolds, Mahony, Carberry, Hassett, and Cooke severally addressed the meeting.

The Irish repeal association, as we find by the published report of their committee, have come to these among other resolutions:—“ Never to support any ministry that does not leave the question of repeal an open one to the Irish people,” and “ never to support any ministry but one that avows further reform, and disavows finality.”

Sunday evening, about half-past six, the town of Portpatrick was visited by a most unusual phenomenon—namely, a water-spout, which did very serious damage, by causing the almost total destruction of upwards of 20 houses. Fortunately no lives were lost. This is to be ascribed to the partial descent of the rain, which formed a complete volume of water during the time it lasted. The part of the town which suffered most severely was the lower part, very close to the water side.—*elfast Chronicle*.

The crops in Ireland as with us are very backward for the time of the year. The temperature has improved since last week, but rain continues to fall at intervals, and the weather is quite unsettled. The accounts from the country show that the rain has been pretty general, and consequently the injury to wheat; but Ulster appears to have suffered less than the other provinces.

SCOTLAND.

On Monday week, the annual meeting of the members and friends of the Glasgow Emancipation Society, was held in the Trades' Hall, Glassford street. The meeting was very poorly attended—notwithstanding the announcement that Mr. George Thompson and other gentlemen were to be present—the seats in the hall being little more than half occupied. The Rev. William Anderson took the chair, and the meeting was addressed by Mr. Smeal and Mr. George Thompson. On Tuesday an adjourned meeting was held to hear an address from Mr. George Thompson in reference to the dethronement of the Raja of Sattara. Mr. John M'Leod was called to the chair. Mr. Thompson concluded by proposing a motion to the effect:—“ That this meeting pledge themselves to seek through the parliament, and, if necessary, by a direct appeal to the Queen in council, the restoration of the ex-Raja to the throne of which he had been deprived, and the reparation of the wrongs inflicted upon him by the British government.” An amendment declining interference in this matter was moved by the Rev. Mr. Brewster from Paisley, but was lost on being put to the meeting. A motion denouncing the American Colonization Society was next adopted, and was followed by the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year.

It was resolved upon by the Assembly's commission, at its meeting on Wednesday, to proceed against six ministers of the church, who have been guilty of recognising the deposed ministers of Strathbogie as still ministers of the church. It will be recollected that a great number of the moderate clergy and lay office-bearers of the church, at last Assembly, declared their determination to hold communion with the Strathbogie ministers, who have since obtained the protection of the Court of Session from any civil effect following on the Assembly's sentence. Since then the minority of the Presbytery of Strathbogie have reported that Mr. Grant of Leith, Mr. Robertson of Ellon, and several other clergymen, have not only preached in the pulpits of the deposed gentlemen, but have interchanged the sacred symbols of our faith at the communion table,—and for this the commission has ordered their several presbyteries to proceed against them with the discipline of the church, in order to their deposition or excommunication.—*Scottish Pilot*.

Accounts from Scotland state that the weather is becoming alarming. Last week was most unfavourable for the growing crops; it rained almost incessantly, and was accompanied with a close atmosphere. This unfavourable state of the weather is much the same all over the west of Scotland. Regarding trade, the lapse of another week affords no opportunity of giving a better account. In the course of the last six days several manufacturing establishments in Paisley have had to give way. In the course of the week there has also been a considerable addition both to the amount of money expended by the operatives relief committee and in the numbers dependent on them.

SELECTIONS FROM THE PRESS.

(Church Intelligencer.)

OUR contemporary *The Nonconformist* still dashes on at a rapid rate, scarcely allowing himself or others time to breathe; we shall take our time, lest we should make more haste than good speed. Our opponent sets it down "as one mark against us," that we do not give all his articles at length in our columns, but we assure him that nothing but want of space prevents our doing so. We gave a large portion of one article in our last number, and if at any time we do not quote his language fairly he can set that down as another mark against us, and if we cannot clear ourselves we will candidly acknowledge our error, and make amends. He will, however, probably allow us to say that we do not recollect a single instance of our having ever yet been convicted of misrepresentation or unfairness of quotation; and within the last seven years we find, on a calculation which curiosity suggested, that we have published not merely some *fifty thousand* or a *hundred thousand*, but not less than *five hundred and seventy-two thousand four hundred and eighty* copies of one work and another; that is to say, above *half a million* of copies of various publications, besides contributions to several newspapers and magazines, and all directly or indirectly in defending and propagating the great principles of the English branch of Christ's holy catholic and apostolic church; under the firm conviction of the truth of our favourite maxim, "make the people sound and good churchmen, and their politics will never be far wrong." Perhaps it is pardonable vanity if one says that it is to such efforts as this that the church and state are some little indebted for their present comparatively favourable position in the estimation of the people, as evidenced by the late election.

But to come to more important matter. *The Nonconformist*, in its ways of proving that parliament transferred the ecclesiastical revenues of the country from the church of Rome to the church of England, and that the latter was created by parliament at or about the same period, thus writes:—"By the Roman church tithes were for centuries enjoyed, until by act of parliament 2 and 3 Edward VI. it was provided that if any rector, vicar, perpetual curate, or other priest, should in future say mass in the usual manner, and not use the common prayer-book, he should forfeit to the king one year's revenue of his benefice, and be imprisoned for six months; that, for a second offence, he should be deprived of his benefice, and of all his spiritual promotions, and be imprisoned for one whole year; and, for a third offence, imprisonment during his natural life. And further, it authorised patrons to appoint a protestant successor, as if he were dead. If this be not, as we described it, a handing over in trust by parliament her present temporalities to the Anglican church, we must leave *The Church Intelligencer* to tell us more precisely what it is. The original possessors of these funds are, by law, dispossessed—and by law, authority is given to appoint other men to the enjoyment of them in their stead. The state was either right or wrong in passing this act. If right, then church funds are under its control. If wrong, then the protestant episcopal church has no title to them."

We have given this quotation at length, to prevent any accusation of unfairness; but more inconsiderate, loose, and indefinite language it would be difficult to find. Whether our contemporary writes thus designedly, on feeling that his positions require it, or because he really cannot help it, we need not inquire. He speaks of "the protestant episcopal church," and of "a protestant successor," and just before of "the protestant episcopal establishment," because such language seems to suit his ideas and purposes; whereas, as we have already said, the church of England is never so designated, either in her own authoritative works, in acts of parliament, or in any other documents or works of consequence. Our opponent, in common with the generality of popish and other nonconformists, labours hard to convince his readers that the church of England never existed until the Reformation, and that at that time parliament found in the country two churches, the church of Rome and the church of England, and then transferred the tithes, &c., from the church of Rome to the church of England. But, nothing can be further from the truth, or more absurd; for, in the first place, the reformation is never called a *creation*, for there was no *creation* of a new church, but merely the *reformation*, a cleansing, a purifying of the old one. It was precisely the same church after the reformation as it was before it. Nor did the church of England ever *separate* from the church of Rome at all, she merely cast off, and protested against her errors and superstitions. There consequently was no transfer whatever of the tithes, either from the church of Rome, or from anywhere else, to the church of England; for the church of England continued to possess them throughout the whole course of the reformation, as she had done for hundreds of years previously, and has done ever since. Nothing took place during the reformation at all affecting the existence of the church of England, as a branch of Christ's holy catholic church. The pope had, contrary to the laws of the church and the country, which were still in existence, usurped authority over the church of England, and had foisted upon her many of his corruptions; and at the reformation, the church cast off the usurped authority of the pope, and purified herself from those corruptions which formed no part at all of the church, any more than a man's coat forms part of the man. And to say, that when she cast off those corruptions, the church was no longer the same church as she was before, is just as absurd as to say, that when a man has thrown off an old ragged dirty coat, and has put on a clean and good one, he is no longer the same man.

If the church, with the sanction of parliament, determined that the idolatrous corruptions which Rome had thrust upon her should be cast away, and that her clergy should no longer practise them, she had full right and power to do so, and to punish, by suspension, &c., those clergy who refused obedience to her. But to say that by doing so she destroyed herself, or became a new and another church is ridiculous, as the *Nonconformist* must feel. In a late session of parliament, a church Discipline Bill was passed, by which disobedient clergymen may be deprived of their benefices, and successors appointed to them; but we humbly submit to our opponent, that the church is the same church now as she was before that Bill was passed. And such was also the case before and after the passing of 2 and 3 of Edw. VI., by which the *Nonconformist* says the church was *created*, and had the tithes handed over to her. And it is not true, that by that law "the original possessors of the church funds were dispossessed," and other persons appointed to enjoy them. And in fact, when it suits their purposes, the nonconformists themselves stoutly deny what the *Nonconformist* here labours to prove. They roundly accuse the church of being almost the same as she was previously to the reformation, and of not having cast off half as much as she ought to have done, and that she is yet essentially popish, and all the rest of it. The old proverb will have it that a certain description of people have need of good memories, lest they contradict at one time what they had said at another. Sometimes the dissenters say that the church of England got rid of very little popery indeed; at another time they say that she went so far in the work of reformation or destruction, that she became a new church altogether. When men get on the wrong side of a question it is very difficult to find them on the right side of an argument; but not at all rare to find them plunging into all sorts of inconsistencies, self-contradictions and absurdities. While the church of England was not *created* at the reformation, as the word implies, but merely reformed or purified, the dissenting churches, as they are called, have all been *created* since then, and are consequently mere churches of men—mere human inventions.

POSTSCRIPT.

ANTI-CORN-LAW CONFERENCE, MANCHESTER, TUESDAY, AUG. 17.

The members of the Conference assembled at 10 o'clock in the Town Hall, about 650 gentlemen were present. Dr. Cox was called to the chair.

The Rev. W. M'Kerrow moved, and the Rev. J. Gwyther seconded, "That the following gentlemen be appointed the provisional committee:—Revs. Spencer, Beard, Gwyther, Griffin, Peters, Dr. Halley, Fraser, Hinton, Hamilton, Bevan, Massie, Herne, Poore, Lee, Thornton, Skinner, Chaplin, Scales, Pike, Sibree, Fletcher, and M'Kerrow."

The provisional committee then retired, and on their return the Rev. Mr. Spencer read the following resolutions to which they had come:—

"That the following gentlemen be requested to act as the officers of the Conference during its sitting, viz.:—President for each day. Revs. Atkins, Chaplin, Cox, and Spencer."

"That the following gentlemen be appointed the executive committee. Revs. Scales, Brown, Hamilton, Acworth, Hinton, Carlile, Beardsall, Shuttleworth, Jones, Gwyther, Halley, Payne, Poore, Barfit, Somerville, Bowen, Kelley, Giles, Birt, Laidler, Oberry, Roaf, Pike, Redford, Roper, Scott, East, Beard, Harvey, Baird, Brenton, Burder, Lewis, Thomas, and Davis."

The Rev. Dr. Cox then resigned the chair to the Rev. T. ATKINS, who addressed the meeting in an eloquent speech. He said that ecclesiastical history recorded numerous instances of religious synods and councils held with all the pomp and circumstance peculiar to such assemblies, but the present meeting was unprecedented and unparalleled. Ministers of Christ from all parts of the empire, not in hostile array, sect against sect, and party against party, within the narrow lines of sectarian demarcation, but occupied with an object greater than which could hardly engage the minds of the most eminent christians. They had met at the call of suffering humanity, which reached their ears, not from a foreign land, but from the green valleys and populous streets of their own beloved land. At the outset, however, they were met by the question, "What have christian men, and, above all, christian ministers, to do with temporal politics?" But when they became the denizens of another kingdom, were they to abandon the duties of this? It was not necessary, when they became christians, that they should cease to be men. For his own part, he would have considered himself a traitor both to religion and humanity had he refused to obey the summons to attend the meeting. What was the present situation of the empire? Here was a country great in arts and in arms—the school of science and literature—the mart of commerce—the cradle of luxury—the emporium of the moral world—occupying the highest position amongst surrounding nations, and shedding its light over the most distant lands. Yet this country, possessing within itself inexhaustible resources, whilst it was the richest in the world, was, in one sense, also the poorest. Its population, instinct as it was with ardour, and unrivalled for its industry, was unemployed and in want. Looms were silent—manufactories were closed—commercial men looked at each other in consternation and despair! What was the condition of the poor artisans and peasants? Their lank arms hung idle by their sides—their grim visages were pallid with privation and care—and their worn forms exhibited but the skeletons of men. What is the cause of such a state of things? It was to be found in the laws which prohibit the exchange of labour for food. Our population see abundance in the countries around them, but they are debarred from enjoying it. Like the poor disciples of a poorer Master, they shake their tattered garments, and sing, "Gold and silver have we none, but we will purchase your corn by our industry." It was to put an end to such an unwise and unnatural system as this that they were assembled—to put an end to it, not by violence or clamour, but by means equally scriptural and constitutional. The moral atmosphere was charged with thunder clouds. If the tempest burst upon the country, it would carry desolation in its track. It was the part of the wise to furnish a conductor by means of which the danger might be averted. The eyes of the country were turned upon Manchester. It was necessary, therefore, that those assembled should stand clear of all imputation, and it was most desirable that they should avoid committing themselves to any distinctive line of party politics, which might compromise them in public opinion. Let them adhere firmly to principle, but avoid giving offence to any one—uniting to the courage of the lion the gentleness of the lamb. [This speech was much applauded in the course of its delivery.]

Dr. PYE SMITH followed with an energetic appeal to the sympathies of his audience. He contended that the corn-laws were a part of that vicious system of legislation which had its origin in the night of ignorance and barbarism. Some persons objected to take part in the proceedings of the Conference because they said it was interfering in a matter of fiscal regulation. Such ought not to be received. He protested against the doctrine that ministers of religion ought not to interfere with politics. The alternative now presented to the country was this—the removal of iniquity, or the ruin of the nation. The reverend gentleman concluded a powerful address amidst considerable approbation.

The Rev. Mr. MASSIE and the Rev. W. FLETCHER also shortly addressed the meeting, after which the Conference was adjourned till half-past four o'clock.

The CHAIRMAN then took the sense of the meeting as to whether Mr. Cobden, M.P., should be introduced to address the Conference on the part of the anti-corn-law league, and an unanimous vote having been carried in the affirmative, Mr. Cobden presented himself amidst general applause, and proceeded to address the meeting with his accustomed ability, detailing a variety of important facts bearing upon the question under consideration.

CHINA.

A letter from Macao of the 27th of April, was received yesterday. It is to the following effect:—"Macao, April 27.—The Chinese local government has violated the agreement made with Captain Elliott for the renewal of trade with British subjects. We are also surprised to find that since the 1st not 1,000 chests of tea have found their way out to foreign vessels by smuggling. About the 17th, a chop arrived from the emperor, couched in the most violent terms, ordering all authorities, civil and military, in the province of Canton, to destroy all the teas, rhubarb, and other articles necessary for the English barbarians. This order is rigidly obeyed, and probably one-half of the crop of teas is already destroyed, and the work is still going on. Indemnity is promised by the same chop to those whose property is destroyed, and rewards for those who discover secreted articles. We further find in this chop, political intercourse with the English is interdicted, and the lately appointed commissioners ordered to retire. Numerous fire vessels and rafts had been sent down the river among the foreign shipping, by which several vessels and cargoes have been injured. Our commander is deliberating on the propriety of moving all vessels below the second bar into a wider part of the river."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L. T. shall be inserted as we have opportunity.
 "A Wesleyan Dissenter," will receive our thanks. We will insert his communication next week.
 To those parties whose orders we were unable to execute last week, we beg to tender our apology. The whole of our impression was taken before we received their commands. And we take this opportunity of stating that, owing to the rapid increase of our circulation, our friends who are not stated subscribers, can only ensure themselves against disappointment, by letting us have their orders on Wednesday morning, at latest.

We respectfully request our country friends, in all possible cases, to give their orders to the news agents in their respective localities; where this is impracticable, the better way is to send the amount of subscription (26s. per annum) by post-office order, direct to the office, which will secure the regular transmission of the paper to their address.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1841.

PARLIAMENT AND THE CORN-LAWS.

WHEN a man has a suit depending in court, the decision of which will settle his prospects for life, and either reduce him to beggary or award to him a competence, it is but natural that he should take an intense interest in ascertaining before-hand the character, ability, habits of thought, &c., of the judge before whom his case will come on for trial. Just such is the position of this country at the present moment—and, on the eve of the opening of a new parliament—a parliament to whom is to be submitted for decision a question involving the future destinies of the empire, equally natural does it seem to examine the qualifications of that assembly for the work it is called to perform, and the probable bearing which those qualifications will have upon the judgment they will ultimately pronounce.

The question they have to try is in substance as follows—whether the landowners of the kingdom shall enjoy the privilege of compelling all other classes of the empire to buy the means of subsistence from them exclusively—or, in other words, whether so heavy a fine shall not be inflicted upon such as purchase food from other parties, as shall have the practical effect of enhancing the price of food in this country, and consequently augmenting the income of the landowners to an extent altogether unnatural, and ruinous to every other staple interest of the kingdom.

The matter is to be decided, be it observed, by landowners—by men of whom what we call our constitution requires that they shall be possessed of landed property to a considerable amount. Anything like impartiality, therefore, must be out of the question. How can we expect it? When do we ever find men disposed to give judgment against themselves? Where is the probability they will see that the welfare of the state requires from them a large sacrifice of present advantages? The idea is absurd. Nor ought we to be at all surprised if, within the walls of parliament, maxims, the fallacy of which has been again and again exposed out of doors, should pass current as containing the essence of legislative wisdom; and evidences of distress which come home to every man's door, and parade every street of every town in the empire, should be contemptuously rejected as insufficient or false. It will take an all but infinite mass of proof to convince landowners that rents raised by artificial restrictions are in any way connected with manufacturing depression or commercial derangement.

Nor is the House of Commons composed of men who are likely to take a far-seeing and comprehensive view of their own interests. They are not the body whom one would expect would readily discern the intimate connection subsisting between the general well-being of the people and their own ultimate prosperity. Leaving out of consideration the fact, that on all great questions of policy they are rendered purblind by the virulence of party feeling, it is impossible to estimate the intellectual calibre of the men at anything approaching to a high standard. The bulk of them have been selected as representatives, not on account of their wisdom, but their wealth; and many an unfledged aristocrat or be-whiskered booby stalks into the House of Commons, who is profoundly ignorant of all topics ranging above the level of horseflesh or sword-exercise. We can hardly hope, therefore, that selfishness will be guided to correct conclusion, by a sound understanding. Our judges will be not only partial, but for the most part desperately narrow-minded.

Another circumstance tells powerfully against the country. The major part of the House of Commons are practically irresponsible. They are representatives it is true—but not of independent electors. In the counties, their own tenants; in agricultural boroughs, tradesmen dependent upon the custom of those tenants; in large cities, venal freemen who have had their price, have returned the monopolists to parliament. They are consequently nothing more than reflex representatives of their own influence. None can call them to account but themselves. Their constituencies do but echo back the sound they utter—are so many reduplications of their own mind and will.

We have nothing, therefore to hope from either the impartiality, or the enlightened judgment, or the responsibility of parliament. Our sole hope is in their fears.

They cannot but know that for some time past their character has been rapidly sinking in the estimation of the country, and that the last election was not calculated to raise it. Cautious conduct,

conjoined with some show of generosity, may be well regarded as the wisest policy, lest the nation should be provoked to vote them intolerable, and demand a house of another stamp altogether.

The coming harvest will certainly prove a deficient one—and probably, before it can be reaped, a vast quantity of foreign corn will come into the market, draining the country of gold. The crisis which must ensue in such a case will be such as to appal the boldest statesman.

The revenue is declining, and, on the present system must continue to decline, whilst the expenses of government threaten to be considerably heavier than ever.

Ireland is anything but quiet—nor is the spirit of chartism laid. Should the trading and labouring classes be driven by stress of circumstances to unite, they will not only get rid of corn-laws, but landlord legislation into the bargain.

We are not, therefore, entirely devoid of hope, even from the present conservative majority. They may yet, and that before three months are over us, feel themselves gently constrained to do the very thing they have moved heaven and earth to prevent the doing of. At the elections, they did not lay their account for a bad harvest. They meant to maintain unaltered the present system, barring accidents of course. But accidents must soon constitute a very important element in their consideration of the question. Wind and rain may do much to influence the judgment—and the "insufferable tightness of money," as the Americans phrase it, may force the corn-law question into a new shape. Unless, therefore, the landowners resolve upon shutting their eyes, and running headlong against destruction, we may yet see the great principles of free-trade recognised, even by this present tory parliament.

Whatever may be the result of the deliberations of the new parliament, as affecting the corn-laws, one lesson at all events the country will learn by heart during the present session—we mean that whole chapter of twaddle about the wisdom displayed in our constitution which every politician has received for gospel since 1688. Here we have great questions of national policy gravely submitted for decision to men, who can only do justice to the people by surrendering their own exclusive privileges—from whom the only chance of wringing an extension of freedom, consists in the intolerable sufferings of the community—and who, when they yield, will yield from fear, instead of from a sense of what is due to truth and righteousness.

PROTECTION, SO CALLED, IS ROBBERY.

If we had a preponderating interest of watermen in the legislature, and they were as foolish and unjust as the peers and squires, there would be a prohibition of bridges and steam-boats; but, worse than that, we have a preponderating interest of landlords, and they shut out or heavily tax food in every form, from corn and meat to eggs and apples, wholly prohibiting most, and heavily taxing all articles of sustenance.

Protection as practised by them is to shut A, who has cheap food, out of the market, that B, who has dear food, may exact his price from the rest of the alphabet. Thus, protection means shutting out the best chapmen and the best food. This it is to have a preponderating landed interest in the legislature.

The discussions on the corn laws will lead to the up-breaking of all unnatural and unjust taxation. The arguments against the corn laws are equally applicable against the customs and excise laws—the difference is only in degree. Taxation on food reaches our senses more quickly through our necessities. All taxation, except upon wealth or property, is a bad mode of attaining a just end.

It is often urged that the people would not submit quietly to the quantity of taxation, if imposed in an open and direct, that they do when imposed in an indirect and covert manner; for instance, if we were obliged every time we desired to take a ride, or buy a quire of paper, or an ounce of snuff, to pay a policeman one-third of the cost to receive permission to lay out our own money, it is probable that resistance would be roused sooner; but this is one of its recommendations in our view—it would be a natural check to wasteful expenditure.

The desolating wars and destruction which our aristocratic governments have waged to sustain their order and its interests, would not have been waged, and the thews and sinews of the unborn could not have been pawned to pay for the wholesale destruction of the human beings who have preceded them.

Would a parent be justified in binding his children, and grandchildren, or either, to pay his debts? What a parent would not be justified in towards his children, society is not justified in doing towards the unborn.

THE MANCHESTER CONFERENCE.

THE LETTERS OF THE REVDS. C. WICKSTEED AND R. W. HAMILTON.

SINCE the appearance of our last number, two letters have appeared on the subject of the National Conference of Ministers, on the question of the corn laws—both able ones—one against, and the other in favour of, this novel proceeding; the former from the pen of the Rev. Charles Wicksteed, the latter from that of the Rev. R. W. Hamilton, both of Leeds. Although the time for discussing the expediency of this movement may seem to have gone by, the Conference having already commenced its important labours, we cannot forbear submitting to our readers a few further remarks in vindication of the Conference.

Mr. Wicksteed's letter has been widely published, and subjected to ample criticism by the press. The *Spectator* says of it, that it "exhausts the subject." This appears to us a very easy method of brushing aside arguments which that paper has not condescended to notice; and, considering that the opinions of the *Spectator* had

been placed on record in articles more distinguished for ill-nature than calm reason, it is but a covert mode of paying a compliment to his own judgment, and pronouncing, *ex cathedra*, that his judgment is sustained by arguments which, although they occurred not to him, must be regarded as final. It would be quite as fair, and equally indicative of "hard-headed reasoning," were we to give the letter of Mr. Hamilton, and, having stated that our opinions were on record, content ourselves with declaring that it "exhausts the subject."

To the ability, manliness, and good feeling displayed by Mr. Wicksteed, in his letter, we cheerfully add our humble tribute of praise. But we cannot regard his objections to the Conference as evincing either soundness of judgment, or a comprehensive grasp of mind. There are no occasions which test more closely the real nature of the stuff a man is made of, than those which bring into direct collision the petty technicalities of right and wrong, and the incomparably higher dictates of a commanding principle. He who persists in sticking to conventional proprieties, when patriotism, benevolence, and religion call aloud for prompt and decisive action, is just the man whose narrow-minded honesty would refuse to throw overboard a stick of property committed to his care, when the ship is likely to go down unless speedily lightened.

The object proposed by this Conference, is to give united and solemn expression to the sentiments of the religious portion of the community on the subject of the corn-laws. Mr. Wicksteed objects to employ any such influence, because, he says, on such a topic it is not legitimate. But why not legitimate? It is easy to make the assertion—very hard to convince the moral sense of the nation that the assertion is correct. It is not honest to destroy other people's property—but when a raging conflagration threatens to reduce a whole city to ashes, are we to be told that men who pull down a house in this street and a shed in another, as the likeliest means of checking the fire, are transgressing the bounds of honesty, and making an illegitimate use of their powers? To raze the house of a neighbour to the ground, is *per se* to be condemned—to convoke ministers of the gospel for discussion of political questions, may be *per se* undesirable. But when the country is on the eve of ruin—when starvation literally shows its gaunt and ghastly features in our streets—when our manufactures are clearly exposed to wide-spread destruction—and our vast population of industrious mechanics have no prospect before them but to lie down and die—when, as the natural consequence of misery so appalling, the ministration of spiritual truth is spurned and all religious institutions are hastening to decay—and when, moreover, by one art and another a parliament is returned pledged against affording the only relief which the frightful suffering of the people will admit of—who shall say that religious men, as religious men, exert an influence altogether illegitimate, if at such a crisis they step forward and throw all the weight of their character and their opinions into the scale of justice, compassion, and kindliness? It is not a time for higgling about nice proprieties. The voice of mercy overbears that of conventional decency—nor would we give a button for that man's judgment, who under such circumstances listens to his head rather than his heart.

At such a crisis, then, we think the bringing of the religion—the embodied and living christianity of the country, to bear upon the settlement of the corn-law question, not only legitimate, but singularly appropriate. Why must religion be silent? Why may every influence speak aloud but that which is most likely to tell upon the national mind? And if it is a fitting occasion for the interposition of the religious portion of the community, as such, the only question which remains, is, as to the kind of machinery to be employed to this end with most effect.

Representatives there must be, in such a case—for only by representatives would it be possible for religious bodies to unite and give expression to their sentiments. Nor can we see where representatives more fitting could be found than the teachers of Christianity of every denomination. The relationship in which they stand to their constituents (if we may so express it) is a spiritual one. Between them and the bodies they represent there is a mutual understanding, a close sympathy, and in most cases an agreement of opinion. They are easily accessible—their names are known—they are brought together with comparative facility—and, when assembled, their recorded judgment may be fairly taken as the recorded judgment of the religious community in the kingdom. Admitting the end to be a good one, we see no fair or conclusive argument against the means by which it is to be attained. No others we think would reach it with equal ease or equal certainty.

Mr. Wicksteed objects to the precedent as a bad one. To this objection Mr. Hamilton makes the following forcible reply:—

"Suppose that it is said that such a convocation is new. Let it be freely admitted. Is not this the crisis of our mercantile existence? The town where we intend to hold the session passed last week an ordeal it never felt before. *It was admitted on all sides, that such a six days' inaction, suspense, consternation, were without record or tradition.* I have not heard whether this has brought relief or hope. Until now, the corn-law was comparatively a minor mischief. There was much to neutralise and counterbalance it. We commanded the markets of the world. Raw material was at the price of our bidding, and our fabrics were wafted to every distant port. Our webs were then whole, not threads which others might complete. Our buyers brought down princes and nobles from their towered castles; they may take a fourth-rate position now. They chose, and Europe scraped up the remnant; for the remnant must they now higgle. Upon every sober calculation, our commerce has begun a certain, an irretrievable decadence. Vast as is our trade, it never can be what it was. The prohibitory law—be it confined to corn—is now the giant bane. It aggravates every evil—it blights every good. May we not take up a front, until now untried, against an iniquity, until now unmeasured? Let it not be called the last feather which breaks the back: the last drop which causes the cup to overflow. It has long been a deep and potent evil—but it could not work out all its fearfulness at once. What but it has leagued the nations against

us? What but it has produced their retaliatory tariffs? What but it has forced up their manufactures? Our wealth, our industry, our capacities in mineral, our resources in shipping, hid the havoc from us for a time; but even these antagonists are bending in the struggle of the rivalry at last. Let not christian ministers be harshly judged, if, in such an unexpected conjuncture, they express their alarm and utter their warning.

"I am not insensible to the conceivable delinquencies and mischiefs of clerical synods. But *only are they formidable when seconded by civil machinery*, or entrusted by popular credulity. This will be a very harmless, self-constituted and self-dissolved. It has one theme before it, and scarcely admits of adjournment. Should the future premier repeal the corn law, the spell of this gathering will be broken, and 'deeper than did ever plummet sound,' will be the chance of its revival."

But Mr. Wicksteed is at issue with himself. One of his objections to the Conference is, that "it will add no new element, and therefore give no additional strength to the present state of parties." But if found to be ineffective, what danger exists of its revival? It is, after all, the efficiency of it that Mr. Wicksteed fears—we mean of course, as likely to constitute it an undesirable precedent. The following passage from his letter shows what "new element of strength" the Conference will bring into play.

"Though, therefore, the present occasion, if taken by itself, would be one of the noblest and best in which a band of religious teachers ever met to interest themselves, it is right to remember that the sword thus put into their hands has two edges. They have been called together virtually by the laity this time, but they may call themselves together the next. The laity have chosen the topic for discussion now, but the divines may exercise their own choice in future. They may hereafter meet, as now, only to exercise their religious influence; but if two or three hundred moderate and enlightened men can constitute a conference in 1841, *influencing men of similar character*, two hundred or three hundred hot-headed and ignorant men may equally constitute a conference in 1851, influencing men of similar character; and the firebrands that, while separate, a little local water can extinguish, when collected in force and numbers it will require a very considerable accumulation of the cooler element to put out."

Union, then, is strength. Whether men be moderate or hot-headed, their influence is greater when assembled in one body, than when scattered as individuals over the face of the country. The ministers who meet at Manchester, will be able to do more for the repeal of the corn-laws, than they could do, singly, in their respective spheres of labour. We think the state of the country demands of them that they avail themselves of the advantage; and leave the good sense of the country to put down the firebrands who may chance meet in 1851.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF ARISTOCRATIC LAW-MAKING.

"The cause of the general distress will be found in the selfishness and misgovernment springing from the great monster evil, the monopoly of legislation."

Nonconformist, No. 18.

WE select from the daily papers, immediately succeeding our remarks upon the aristocratic principle, the following illustrations of the misery flowing from the system of hereditary legislation—the germ of all monopolies, and the well-spring of selfishness:—

"At the Guildhall yesterday, no less than four individuals were brought before Mr. Alderman Kelly, who committed offences for the mere purpose of gaining the temporary shelter of a station-house, and the chance of a crust of bread. Crime, therefore, is better off in England than poverty. To be entitled to protection, shelter, and food, a man must be a criminal. Such a fact, though there were only one in a year, instead of crowding upon us four in a day, would be an unerring indication that our legislation requires revision.

"The process of debasement and degradation seems to be this: scarcity of employment and scarcity of food, as they are felt in class after class, make one class press down on the other, and squeeze out the lowest to utter destitution. Amongst the humble classes there is a great deal of charity; they help each other; but when all find it difficult to live, they are obliged to deny succour to the most distressed, who are driven to commit offences that they may drag out their miserable existence a few days or weeks longer. We are much afraid that the misery which thus forces itself into public notice bears only a very small proportion to that which hides itself, and perishes in obscurity. We are much afraid, too, that reckless despair instead of blithe and careful hope, is becoming, from continual disappointment, the prevalent disposition of our people; and that those who deny them bread and a fair field for their exertions, will have to answer, not only for starving many out of existence, but for the moral debasement of all."—*Sun, Aug. 12.*

The people are fast getting to know that forcible resistance to the law is absurd, for the aristocracy have provided, and can provide against this—they can starve a sufficient number of the poor into ignorance and enlistment as soldiers, and arm them to keep down the rest, and make them pay the instruments. Whilst the mass are foolish enough to be incited to force and rebellion, and the aristocracy can vote themselves secret service money, they will never want for spies to incite the ignorant, and gibbet them as terrible examples at once of folly, fraud, and bitterness. Both sections, too, have concurred in drilling and organizing a police soldiery that could be made more effectual for both purposes. If they would win equal laws the people must not resort to violence. If the practice of seeking a prison instead of the union should generally obtain among the starving and roofless that they may obtain food and shelter, the aristocracy will find it a more difficult thing to deal with than an outbreak of physical violence.

Two men were tried during the present assizes for killing a sheep, not with any felonious intent, but that they might be transported—the aristocracy having most benevolently enacted that the act, irrespective of the motive, shall be so punished; and these poor wretches, desiring to be sent out of this happy country, gave information against themselves, that they might avail themselves of the wretched provision of this blind law, made by "the Corinthian pillars of polished society." It is not only blind, but merciless, for the judge said he had no discretion.

Would such a law, with such a punishment, exist if poor men were represented in parliament? Thus society is suffering the natural consequence of converting the new union-houses into a prison,

and of evading the claims of the wretched upon technical points, whilst the poor grow desperate from want of food, clothing, and shelter. There is now, we fear, but little difference between the two shelters, except that relief is secured at once in the one case, and is protracted in the other. By this absurd law our wretched poor have now the power to compel the country to pay the expense of their emigration to a place where they may be better off, and cannot be worse. We proceed with our extracts:—

"CAUSE AND EFFECT."—The uneasy state of the public mind in Ireland, produced by the prospect of a tory government, has induced her Majesty's representative to recommend that an addition be made to the military force in that country. We have, of late years, had the pleasure of reporting a reduction in the army stationed there. We have now the unpleasant duty of stating that a regiment of cavalry is ordered to proceed to Ireland forthwith, to be followed by two infantry regiments."—*Sun.*

This is quite consistent with Lord John's intimation to the electors of London—which the *Morning Chronicle* called a state paper.

In the outset of that pledge-myself-to-nothing document he volunteered this intimation to his tory cousins.

"It would be inconsistent with my notions of public duty to harass the government of the day by vexatious opposition, still less to deny to the Crown the means of maintaining the reputation of the country abroad, and internal quiet at home."

Lord Ebrington, a pet whig, is carrying out the hint—if the section cannot give good measures, they can make the people submit to bad ones. The passage, being translated, means, "It would be inconsistent with my notions of duty to my order to deny to the 'order' the means of compelling the people to submit to laws involving their starvation."

Read again the paragraph—he falsely assumes that some one had asked him to harass the government by a *repetitious* opposition, and to deny to the Queen the means of maintaining the reputation and peace of the country. Men resort to false assumptions to veil dishonest or indirect purposes—his purpose was to tell the people that he considered the interests of his "order" more important than theirs; and that though he was going out protesting in words against the prohibition-of-food laws, he meant that the tories should have the soldiery to compel them to submit to those laws. He well knew there was no other cause for apprehension at home, and that the Crown was never more popular. Contrast the Queen's present visiting tour with the apprehension as to the late king's visiting the citizens. We do not object to the purpose, but we point out the anxious and unnecessary volunteering of the intimation, to show that the love of "the order" is paramount to the love of the country; that is, as we use the word, of the interests of the people. With the aristocracy it is the class first, and then the people; but the class at all events—it must be so whilst we have privileged classes irrespective of living merit.

We proceed with our illustrations of the effects of aristocratic selfishness and its spirit:—

"GAME PRESERVES."—The extent to which the system of game-preserving is carried is almost incredible: for not alone in the ranks of our proud and overbearing aristocracy are game-preservers to be found—the mania extends to tradesmen, aye, to Liverpool tradesmen too, and we are bound to say that the proceedings of the latter class are often characterised by a spirit of petty vindictiveness and spleen generally unknown amongst despots of a more elevated grade. We spoke of Lord Stanley preserving lands not his own; the same remark will apply, in an equal degree, to the Earl of Sefton. The latter nobleman commences with his preserves at Croxteth, and extends it through Kirby, Simmonswood, Aintree, Sefton, Thornton (a township in which he scarcely owns an acre of land), Altcar, to the sea—a space, as the crow flies, of some twelve miles in length, and averaging two miles in width. Lord Sefton should not put the county to expense for punishing trespassers on twenty-four square miles of land. Some years ago his lordship's keeper, Joseph Warner, of Altcar, was left for dead by some poachers, who were subsequently apprehended, and one or two were transported for the crime; but the expenses of the prosecution were borne by the county. Within our recollection one of Lord Skelmersdale's keepers in Latham, was shot dead by a poacher, who was never taken. In Anglesea, the convict Chubb now lies under sentence of death for the murder of a gamekeeper. We repeat, then, gamepreservers should dip into their own pockets, and not into those of the public to pay for their whims.—*Liverpool Albion.*"

It is not only the expense to society, but the moral destruction of the men, and their unfortunate, and from thenceforth miserable, wives and families. From that time, too, the bereaved wife may be shut up in a new union, if she cannot drag up her helpless children, though able to maintain herself—in this way women are constantly the victims of bad laws, and of the temptations of distress and misery into which they are plunged by the imprisonment and transports of their fathers, husbands and sons.

"A FREE-TRADE MISSIONARY FROM THE UNITED STATES."—An address was delivered on Tuesday evening to the members of the Manchester Anti-Corn-law Association by John Curtis, Esq., of Ohio, North America, upon the capabilities of that country to supply us with corn and provisions. He stated that he was authorised by the public voice in the United States to state that nothing was more desired by his countrymen than to exchange their agricultural produce for the manufactures of England. He was listened to with great interest whilst he went into a great variety of facts, showing the rich resources of the 'great west,' and at the close of his address a vote of thanks was unanimously tendered to him by the meeting. We understand Mr. Curtis intends to make a tour through the principal towns of the kingdom for the purpose of explaining the capabilities of the United States to supply the deficiency of food for our population.—*Anti-Bread-tax Circular.*"

Can any economist doubt that if our aristocratic legislators permitted our brethren in America to pay the immense sums they owe us, by their flour, that our merchants would have been paid their debts, and our workmen kept in employ?

Now, mark how these gew-gaw titles seduce those who once were generous, and in some degree disposed to equal rights and equal laws.

"We hear it rumoured that Sir Francis Burdett is at Drayton Manor, fishing for a peccage."—*Sun.*

This plague spirit runs away with every thing that is generous and noble in men's nature. It is not alone the renegades and the demented whom the law of primogeniture, and the folly of hereditary titles seduce from the nobility of nature, and convert into subservient cringing idlers; but those who have been great and useful, when they get dry and shrivelled are made lords, and become the parents of idle and useless men and women, despising work and promoting corruption and patronage, that they may be placed or pensioned upon society. The suppressive effects of hereditary titles are more injurious than the positive, and they are blighting and destroying. It is the black jaundice of the body social.

SUMMARY.

UNPROPITIOUS weather, still! Rain and cold winds! What will become of the sliding scale? What of those who have taken their stand upon it. The difficulties of Sir Robert Peel begin to take shape and distinctness as the hour for his inauguration draws nigh. Five hundred Sir Roberts rolled into one would not be able to maintain the present corn-laws—to abandon them, will disappoint and kindle the rage of the long list of country gentlemen, M.P.'s, who imagine that the seasons were made to wait upon their pleasure, and the heavens themselves to revolve about them as a fixed centre. These sapient philosophers would not allow of a man's having done his duty, if beaten at last, even if omnipotence were his antagonist—and should Sir Robert sacrifice himself in a bootless attempt to preserve his political consistency, these would be the first to trample upon his remains. They are selfish and ignorant enough to gnash their teeth at Providence, because Providence is against them—but seeing that would be fruitless, they would gladly vent their displeasure upon the unhappy statesman whom Providence shall overcome.

The accounts from various quarters of the country represent the crops as having sustained very partial, if any, damage. Such representations, however, are not to be relied on. They are usually communicated by farmers to journals circulating principally among farmers. And it is to the farmers' interest, now, to prevent corn from rising until after the harvest. Few of our agriculturists could avail themselves of high prices until their corn is housed, for the simple reason that most of them have disposed of their stock already—and if, in consequence of the next averages, bonded wheat should come into the market before harvest has terminated, the golden prospect now before the farmer would turn out but a gloomy one. It is, therefore, of importance to the landed interest to have favourable reports—that present prices may not be raised until the farmers can avail themselves of the advantage. We believe the authority on which we stated that the crops were already a fifth below the average, will be found to be borne out by the event. If so, the country must be prepared for a general crash.

The *Times* has employed itself during the week in disposing of Sir Robert Inglis's church extension scheme. It has enforced with wonderful ability the duty which the church owes to herself, to develop her immense internal resources before she asks assistance from the state, and argues that external prosperity is not always the best agent for calling out inherent strength. We would have commented on this phenomenon, but that our space was previously occupied. As it is, we take it as an indication that the expectation we indulged at the conclusion of the elections will pretty certainly be realised—namely, that Sir R. Inglis's church extension scheme will be shelved during conservative ascendancy.

Parliament will assemble to-morrow and proceed to the election of a Speaker: and her Majesty will open both houses in person on Tuesday next. The whigs it appears intend to lay their measures before the country previously to their retirement. Whether Sir Robert will allow them to be discussed is another question. Should an amendment to the address reiterate want of confidence in the ministry, we do not see how they could secure a debate.

France seems yet uneasy. From China the intelligence just received opens no promise of a termination of hostilities.

The Queen held a Privy Council at two on Wednesday afternoon, at Windsor castle. It was attended by Prince Albert, the First Lord of the Treasury, the secretaries of State for the Home and Foreign Departments, the First Commissioner of the Woods and Forests, the Lord Chamberlain, and the Paymaster-general of her Majesty's forces. The Hon. Edward John Stanley was, by command of the Queen, sworn of her Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, and took his place at the board.

The Queen has notified her intention of opening parliament in person on the 24th inst., on which day the royal speech will be delivered from the throne. The intermediate days from the 19th will be occupied in swearing the members of the House of Commons after the election.

Viscount Melbourne arrived in town on Saturday morning, from a visit to her Majesty at Windsor Castle. Lord de Freyn, the Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston, Sir Robert Price, and Mr. Milner Gibson had interviews with the noble Viscount in the afternoon, at his official residence in Downing-street.

Viscount Melbourne gave a dinner to the Cabinet ministers on Saturday evening, at his private residence in South-street. The ministers present were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Clarendon, the Marquis of Normanby, Viscount Palmerston, Lord John Russell, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Earl of Minto, Sir John Hobhouse, Viscount Duncannon, Mr. Labouchere, Sir George Grey, and Mr. Macaulay.

Lord Oranmore had an interview with Lord John Russell on Saturday, at the Colonial office.

Mr. Henry Berkeley and a deputation from Bristol had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Thursday, at his official residence in Downing-street.

Lord John Russell will give a full dress parliamentary dinner on Monday next, the 23rd inst., at the Foreign office, Downing-street.

ACCIDENT AT VIRGINIA WATER.—Her Majesty left the Castle on Saturday afternoon, for the purpose of proceeding to the neighbourhood of Virginia Water to witness the hunting of Prince Albert's Lilliputian pack of beagles. Upon the royal party arriving at that part of the lake near the Obelisk, the carriages were drawn up close to the mound, in order to afford her Majesty a good view of the sport, when, upon the beagles being brought near to the Queen, their "tuneful voices" caused the pony in the phæton, containing Lord Erroll, Lady Hay, and Miss Cavendish, upon which the front postillion was mounted, to show symptoms of kicking: and upon the dogs running between the legs of the horses, it reared up the back of the off leader, and threw its rider, kicking him on the head, which came in contact with the wheel as he fell. The leaders, then under no control, darted sharply round, and rushed down the mound towards the lake, running over the dismounted postillion, and dragging the wheels of the phæton over him. The Earl of Erroll immediately jumped out and providentially rescued the two ladies without their sustaining any injury beyond some trifling bruises. Cannon, the other postillion, seeing the dangerous position the party were in, jumped off his horse, and ran to the heads of the leaders, followed by Prince Albert, Lord Alfred Paget, and the other male attendants upon the Queen, but not in sufficient time to prevent the restive leader from darting into the lake, which, at this spot, is upwards of 14 feet deep. By great exertions, in which the Prince distinguished himself, the other three ponies, were prevented from being dragged into the lake, and the carriage with them; and after some time the restive leader was got ashore. His Royal Highness, during the whole of this time, rendered great assistance, "working," as was observed by a by-stander, "like a Briton." One of the postillions was somewhat injured, but received every attention from the royal pair.

The address in the House of Lords, in reply to her Majesty's speech on the opening of the new parliament, will, we understand, be moved by Earl Spencer, and be seconded by the Marquess of Clanricarde. The re-appearance of Lord Spencer on the public stage, at such a time, and on an occasion to which the nation looks with deep anxiety and almost unexampled interest at the present crisis of its affairs, will be hailed with pleasure by all who remember the great ability and stern integrity by which, as Chancellor of the Exchequer and leader of the House of Commons, his lordship's whole course of public duty was distinguished, and recognised as so distinguished by all parties in the country.—*Globe*.

Eight new Peers have been created. The Earl of Surrey has been called to the Upper House by the title of Baron Maltravers. A peerage has been conferred on the Earl of Stair, who will take his seat as Baron Oxenford of Cousland. Peerages have also been conferred on the Earl of Belfast, who will sit as Baron Ennishowen and Carrickfergus; and on the Earl of Kenmare, who will take his seat as Baron Kenmare. Sir Richard Hussey Vivian, Bart., has been raised to the peerage by the name, style, and title of Baron Vivian of Glyn and of Truro; and Sir Henry Brooke Parnell, Bart., has been created Baron Congleton of Congleton. Her Majesty has also been pleased to raise Lord Segrave to the dignity of an Earl, by the name, style, and title of Earl Fitzhardinge. A similar honour has been conferred upon Lord Barham, who has been created a Baron, Viscount, and Earl of the United Kingdom, under the name, style, and title of Baron Noel o' Ridlington, Viscount Campden of Campden, and Earl of Gainsborough.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

FIRE AT BLACKHEATH.—On Wednesday morning, between one and two o'clock, a most destructive fire broke out in the Grove, Blackheath, nearly opposite the Green Man, by which property of the most valuable description, to the amount of 20,000*l.*, has been destroyed. One of the mansions in the Grove, of immense size, is completely down, and the adjoining one greatly damaged. Captain Waller and his family, who have only been from the East Indies about five weeks, had taken the above residence, furnished, bringing with them property to the amount of several thousands, the whole of which has been destroyed. The fire is supposed to have been caused by the negligence of a dress-maker employed in the house.

ALARMING FIRE IN THE ADELPHI ARCHES IN THE STRAND.—Friday morning, between twelve and one o'clock, the inhabitants residing in John and Adam streets, Adelphi, Strand, were aroused from their beds by their houses being filled almost to suffocation with a dense smoke. The fire was discovered to be in some extensive stabling in the dark arches of the Adelphi, in which were many loads of loose straw deposited, adjoining to which is a long range of stabling, in which were between twenty and thirty valuable cart-horses, besides fourteen cows, all of which with great difficulty were got out. So dense was the smoke, that for some time it was totally impossible for the firemen to approach, but at last the fire-engines were got into operation. Nearly the whole of the straw is destroyed, but the flames were prevented reaching the adjoining range of stabling. The fire originated by a number of houseless mendicants congregating to sleep amongst the straw and hay, some of whom, in obtaining a light from a lucifer match to smoke some tobacco, dropped it amongst the straw, which ignited. It was only on Saturday week seventeen poor wretches were apprehended sleeping in the same place, and all committed to the House of Correction for various periods.

DISAPPEARANCE OF A STUDENT AT HOMERTON COLLEGE.—On Wednesday, information was received at all the metropolitan police stations of the mysterious disappearance of Mr. Thomas Hinds, a student at Homerton college. It appears that the gentleman in question, who is about twenty-three years of age, left Gravesend for London on the morning of Saturday week, where he arrived in safety, having called at the college about six o'clock the same evening; since which time he had not been seen or heard of. He is described as being about five feet eight inches in height, with a full face, hair light and curly; no whiskers, light blue eyes, and in person full bodied. Was dressed in a suit of black clothes, a satin stock with long ends, fastened with a Peruvian diamond pin; linen marked "T. Hinds." Had in his waist-coat pocket a gold chronometer watch, made by Frodesham, &c., London, with the initials, "T. H." on the cases, worn with a gold guard chain. In his pocket he had also 5*l.*, and a Russia leather pocket-book containing memorandums.

FATAL EXPLOSION IN A COAL PIT.—An explosion of inflammable gas took place in Thornley colliery, Sunderland, on Friday week. The greater number of the workmen had just left the pit, some persons being left to attend to the ventilation. It is supposed that the explosion was caused by the carelessness of a boy, who had the management of a trap-door by which the ventilation was regulated. A man and eight boys, of ages from nine to eighteen, were killed; and three persons were seriously injured. The people in the pit did not use Davy lamps, but candles.

ACCIDENT AT EDGWARE.—On Monday week, a young man named John Clarke, who is in the employ of the landlord of the Bald-faced Stag, was with others forming a hay rick, when he fell from the top, having at the same time in his hand a pitchfork, which in his descent to the ground perforated his side. Such is the nature of the injury that no hopes are entertained of his recovery. Clarke is a young man of steady sober habits, and has a wife and two young children.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE RIVER.—**Two Lives Lost.**—Between nine and ten o'clock on Thursday night, two young gentlemen, named Robins and Johnson, were rowing from Putney, when they came in collision with a barge immediately after passing through Vauxhall bridge, by which the boat was swamped, and both lost their lives; neither of the bodies have yet been found.

DELIBERATE SUICIDE AT LONDON BRIDGE.—On Thursday morning, a man dressed in the garb of a bricklayer, walked down the steps leading to the river on the city side of London bridge, and in a most deliberate manner threw himself into the water. City policeman, Edward Bristow, 567, observed him descending the steps, and hastened after him, but before he could get down to him he had committed the rash act. The policeman gave an alarm, and a waterman coming up, put off in a boat to endeavour to find him, but in vain.

MURDER IN LIVERPOOL.—On Monday, an inquest was held on the body of Antonio Tuscano, a native of Italy, who was murdered by a countryman of his own, named Cappello, at a lodging house, in Thurlow-street, Liverpool, where deceased and prisoner used to sleep in the same bed. The parties quarrelled and the prisoner poured some scalding liquid over the face of the deceased. The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against Cappello, who has been committed to Kirkdale gaol to take his trial at the approaching assizes.

HISTORY OF NEWSPAPERS.—In 1636 there were but 9 newspapers published in London, all of them at weekly intervals. In 1709 the number had increased to 18, of which 1 was published daily. In 1724 there were 3 daily, 8 weekly, 7 three times a week, 3 halfpenny posts, and the *London Gazette* twice a week. In 1792, 13 daily, and 20 semi-weekly and weekly papers. In 1836, when the stamp duty was 4*d.*, the total number of stamps issued for the United Kingdom was 35,576,056. In 1839, 58,516,862. The consumption of stamps has therefore increased 64 per cent. since the reduction of the duty. The oldest existing London papers are, the *English Chronicle*, or *Whitehall Evening Post*, which was started in 1747; the *St. James's Chronicle*, 1761; and the *Morning Chronicle*, 1769. The oldest existing provincial papers are, the *Lincoln Mercury*, published at Stamford, 1695; the *Ipswich Journal*, 1737; *Bath Journal*, 1742; *Birmingham Gazette*, 1741; *Chester Courant*, 1733; *Derby Mercury*, 1742. The oldest paper in Ireland is the *Belfast News Letter*, which was commenced in 1737. In Scotland, the *Edinburgh Evening Courant* is the oldest paper, having been first published in 1705. Newspapers are printed in every county in England, with one exception—Rutland. In Wales there are six counties in which papers are not published, viz., Anglesea, Cardigan, Denbigh, Montgomery, Pembroke, and Radnor. In Scotland there are 16 out of the 32 counties; and in Ireland, only seven out of the 33 counties. In England there are no daily papers published out of London. There are 4 papers published in Guernsey, 4 in Jersey, and 5 in the Isle of Man—all unstamped.

RESTORATION OF THE POST-OFFICE REVENUE.—In Mr. Rowland Hill's paper, read to the Statistical Society, on the results of the new postage arrangements, it is shown, that should the present rate of increase of letters continue, a space of five years from the commencement will suffice for the complete financial success of the plan—that is to say, for the complete restoration of the gross post-office revenue. In the case of the reduction, in 1825, of the duty on coffee, a reduction of only 50 per cent., it was not till the fourth year that the revenue recovered its former footing; and had that measure been judged of by its immediate results, or even by those of the second or third year taken abstractedly, it must have been pronounced a financial failure; whereas it is at present universally recognised as a measure of eminent and undoubted success; and indeed the last year, which was the sixteenth since the reduction, yielded a revenue more than double that obtained under the higher rates. Nor is there any reason to suppose that the benefit has yet attained its maximum.

NEW AMERICAN PRINTING MACHINE.—The *Philadelphia* (United States) *Gazette* notices a new printing machine, now in operation at Hanover, New Jersey, the invention of Mr. Thomas Trench. The rags are taken to the mill and made into paper, which is run on a reel and taken to the printing machine, which prints six spelling-books in one minute, and three hundred books in an hour. The types are set on an iron cylinder, and one revolution prints a book. The sheets are printed on both sides at one operation, and the ink is supplied by a roller moved by machinery. The inventor is now engaged on a machine that will print two common bibles in one minute.

WASTE OF TIME.—It is worthy of remark, that a traveller could have come from the Red Sea to the city of Washington while the House of Representatives has been organizing, or from Washington to Philadelphia while an hon. member was making a speech. Politicians in their waste of time often forget what a busy world we live in.—*New York Paper*.

HEALTH.—The four secrets of health are, early rising, exercise, personal cleanliness, and the rising from the table with the stomach unoppressed. There may be sorrows in spite of these, but they will be less with them; and nobody can be truly comfortable without them.

Glass church bells are among modern wonders. One has just been cast in Sweden. Its diameter is six feet, and its tone is said to be finer than any metal bell.

FILIAL AFFECTION OF THE CHINESE.—The habitual reverence inspired in the mind of a child follows him through life, and forms an indissoluble link—a social bond of the strongest kind. The duty incumbent on a son to provide for the necessities of his indigent parents is seldom slighted, save by those who have no regard for themselves, and is usually discharged with many other becoming acts of esteem. I have sometimes admired the conduct of a son when he has brought an aged parent to the hospital; the tenderness with which he conducted him to the patient's chair, and the feeling with which he detailed his sufferings, showed how deeply rooted filial piety is in the heart of a Chinese. At Macao, a Chinese shoemaker, who had done some work for me at Singapore, called to ask for some further encouragement. "Why," said I to him, "did you leave Singapore, where you had a good business?" "My mother," he replied, "is getting old, and will have me live near her." In obedience to the commands of a parent, he had given up the certain pursuit of a livelihood abroad, and returned to take a very precarious chance at home. The reader will not be sorry that this man used to come, from time to time, for a stock of New Testaments to distribute amongst such of his countrymen as were likely to make a proper use of them.—*Lay's Chinese as they are.*

CROMWELL AT HOME.—The members of Cromwell's family were all persons of more than ordinary accomplishments, intellect, and moral character, and there was the greatest love and harmony existing among them. "His own diet was spare and not curious, except in public treatments, which were constantly given the Monday in every week to all the officers in the army, not below a captain, when he used to dine with them. A table was likewise spread every day of the week for such officers as should casually come to court. He was a great lover of music, and entertained the most skilful in that science in his pay and family. He respected all persons that were eximious in any art, and would procure them to be sent or brought to him. Sometimes he would, for a frolic, before he had half dined, give order for the drum to beat, and call in his foot guards, who were permitted to make booty of all they found on the table. Sometimes he would be jocund with some of the nobility, and would tell them what company they had lately kept; when and where they had drunk the King's health and the royal family's; bidding them, when they did it again, to do it more privately, and this without any passion, and as festivous, droll discourse." He surrounded himself also with the master minds of his time: Milton was his Latin secretary and intimate; Andrew Marvel was a frequent guest at his table; Waller was his friend and kinsman; and the youthful Dryden was not left unnoticed.—*London, No. 20.*

EFFECTS OF RAILROADS.—In several parts along the centre of the Great North-road, so called, from Bawtry to Doncaster, the grass is growing, leaving a track-way on each side. On the same road, between Stamford and Grantham, for several miles the road forms a noble green lane.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS.—The gum with which the new postage stamps are prepared, is extremely tempting to mice and black beetles. This penchant has proved, in more than one recent instance, extremely expensive to postmasters who have placed the sheets of postage stamps within the reach of these remorseless epicures. A postmaster in the Walworth-road experienced a loss last week of upwards of 2*l.* worth of stamps by this means.

GOOD ADVICE.—"This will be a hot summer in the political world for old England," says a recent American paper, "where meetings are holding all over the country on the corn-laws. Go ahead ye Anglo-Saxons," it continues; "reform, renovate, improve, civilize, get food to the body and to the mind, and spread civilization, and the gospel, and steam-engines, schoolmasters, and printing-presses over the world, and let knowledge cover the whole earth 'as the waters cover the great deep.'" The country, surely, cannot do better than follow such good advice—"a word to the wise," &c., even though it comes from Jonathan.

BEAUTIES OF ENGLISH LAW.—A tradesman in the City lately employed a professional gentleman to recover a debt of *thirty shillings*; he succeeded and the costs were *seventy pounds!* What a blessing it is to live in a country where a man may be ruined in being righted!

STREET SCRAPS.—Over the door of a petty schoolmaster and chairmender in Belton street, Long-acre, may be seen the appropriate announcement of "T. Isaacs, teacher of reading and writing, and caner in general;" next door, "Theatrical Portreats" are exhibited: whilst at a broker's shop in the same classic locality, two pictures "by Raffle and Tenyears" are announced for sale. In Covent-garden Market "Forbidden fruit" seduces many of Eve's fair descendants to become purchasers at a very high-cost. A curiosity dealer in the New-cut, Lambeth, states, by placard, that he has for disposal "an antique round table, supposed to have been used by King Arthur and his Knights." A socialist lecturer announces that he can "demonstrate anything to be nothing;" and an advertiser in a morning paper proclaims that he has for disposal a milk walk that "increases in extent daily." These are but a few of the abundant proofs not only that the schoolmaster is literally "abroad," but that he has left little of his learning behind him.

THE HORNS OF A DILEMMA.—"Will you pay me my bill, Sir?" said a tailor in Chartres-street, to a waggish fellow who had got into his debt. "Do you owe anybody anything, Sir?" asked the wag. "No, Sir," said the tailor. "Then you can afford to wait!" and he walked off. A day or two afterwards the tailor called again. Our wag was not at his wit's end yet; so turning on his creditor, he says, "Are you in debt to anybody?" "Yes, Sir," says the tailor. "Well, why don't you pay?" "Because I can't get the money." "That's just my case, Sir; I am glad to see you can appreciate my condition—give us your hand!"

HIGHLAND SIMPLICITY.—Last week, a young girl fresh from the West Highlands, came on a visit to a sister she had in Glasgow. At the outskirts of the town, she stopped at a toll-bar, and began to rap smartly with her knuckles on the gate. The keeper, amused at the girl's action, and curious to know what she wanted, came out, when she very demurely interrogated him as follows:—"Is this Clasco?"—"Yes." "Is Peggy in?"

LITERATURE.

Review of the Proceedings of the Committee of the House of Commons on Banks of Issue, 1840. And an Inquiry into the Effects of the Bank Restriction, and the Changes in the Value of Money: with an Examination of the leading Principles in the Work on Political Economy of the late David Ricardo. By WILLIAM LECKIE. London, J. Unwin. 1841.

POLITICAL ECONOMY.—What a world does it throw open to the philosophic mind for research, and induction, and discovery! A world which has its own laws, fixed and invariable as those of nature herself, but the knowledge of which requires a patient investigation of an immense range of facts, and habits of generalisation such as few men have acquired. It has fared with the currency question very much as it has with geology. Every one pretending to but a smattering acquaintance with either of the sciences, was sure to have a *pet theory*—in geology, one that would solve every difficulty—in moneyology, one that would banish all distress. The country has rung from end to end with metallic-standard vociferations, and been deluged from Cornwall to Berwick, and from Berwick to Caithness, with paper-currency nostrums, and pamphlets on circulation. The public has begun to regard all reference to the question with much the same *nausea* which now follows any allusion to Morrison's vegetable pills—and because there were many quacks, too many persons hastily concluded there could be no true philosophy in the matter.

They are vastly mistaken. As in the natural world so in the economical, the relation sustained by one thing to another is ascertainable—the operation of one upon another may be measured, calculated, predicted with the utmost accuracy. Knowledge in both cases is power—in the latter case, especially, is power to bless nations with abundance and prosperity. The secret of failure, hitherto, has been the narrow and very imperfect induction of facts which has characterised the labours of most men in this line; and the disposition rather to construct a theory and then find facts to support it, than to collect facts from all quarters, and deduce a theory from their united testimony. Few men have taken a large and comprehensive view of our monetary system. The influences which tell upon it have generally been sought for almost exclusively at home. Such as are remote and, to common minds, unseen have been left out of the question—and hence laws or maxims, which seem to have been warranted by two or three classes of facts, are completely overturned when the field of investigation is widened, and all witnesses are allowed to give their evidence.

Mr. Leckie's book is the result of the patient and skilful application of the principles of inductive philosophy to the subject of *money*. Extensive research, singular powers of discrimination, and that fidelity to truth, which prompts a man to follow facts rather than precede them, stand out on every page in prominent relief. In almost every case he takes his reader with him. His candour and moderation win our confidence—and the extensive range of phenomena to which he calls our notice—phenomena which, if known, seem scarcely to have entered into the calculations of many celebrated economists—induces us often to yield him our assent without misgiving, even when he differs from those whose names we revere.

It would of course be impossible for us in the narrow space to which we are limited to give anything like a minute analysis of these treatises, or enter into any discussion on the various topics treated on with eminent ability. We prefer, therefore, to present our readers with the general results at which the author arrives—and this we can happily do in his own language.

Recapitulation of the principal points connected with the currency.

It appears that very extraordinary and unusual issues of paper money were made in several states of Europe between the beginning of the French revolution, in 1789, and the peace of 1815.

That the effect of such issues, under any circumstances, is to lower the value of money. Under the peculiar circumstances and character of the wars which prevailed, in preventing the natural distribution of the precious metals, they occasioned gold and silver to be lowered in value, during that period, at least forty per cent.

That the issues of the banks of Great Britain were depreciated from fifteen to twenty per cent. below that depressed value of the precious metals.

These effects are proved by the difference which existed between the prices of gold and silver and the paper issues in the respective countries, the courses of exchange, the prices of land, of corn, and commodities of all kinds; the importation of gold and silver into the British territories in India after the peace, and the most correct estimate that can be formed of the aggregate amount of the precious metals in circulation in Europe.

That gold will not continue to circulate where bank notes are issued under 5*l.*; and gold being the standard, all banking establishments should be restrained from circulating notes under that amount.

That the notes of country banks, convertible into those of the Bank of England, but not into specie on demand, do not afford sufficient security for a sound currency, and are liable to greater fluctuations in their amount, and more subject to be issued in excess, than when payable in specie on demand, and especially if the minimum of the circulation be limited to five pounds.

That the amount of country bank notes is not limited by that of the Bank of England.

That there is reason to believe that the amount of the unfunded debt, and particularly Exchequer bills, have an important influence on the circulation.

That the currency may be in excess, though the notes of the Bank of England be not greater than usual; that excess may arise from country bank notes, or Exchequer bills, or both.

That the amount of all the circulation should be laid before parliament from time to time, and that of the country banks under the heads of the counties in which they are situated.

That without such returns both ministers and members of the legislature keep themselves ignorant of the pernicious effects of the fluctuations of prices occasioned by paper issues on the labouring classes, by raising the prices of the necessities of life, during periods too short to be accompanied by any corresponding rise in the wages of labour. They also deprive far-

mers and persons entering into contracts for time, of that security for their property which is enjoyed under a circulation of the precious metals, or where the paper circulation does not bear so overwhelming a proportion to the coin.

That there is reason to believe that the price of wheat in this country now would be under 50s. per quarter, and continue so in years of ordinary plenty, if the circulation of all the banks were on the same footing as before the restriction in 1797—that though the superiority of Great Britain in machinery and manufactures would of itself make money less valuable than on the continent, and the greater demand for labour would occasion an increased price for corn—these circumstances are materially aggravated by the system of paper circulation which prevails in the United Kingdom. Before the restriction the Bank of England did not issue notes under 10*l.*, nor did most of the country banks issue any under 5*l.*, and the unfunded debt was then only ten millions. The state of the circulation, therefore, and the value of money, combined with the accelerated ratio of the increase of the population, and not the state of the land, nor difficulty of production, occasion the principal difference which exists between the price of corn in Great Britain and on the continent. That difference in the value of money would be mitigated by a free trade in corn, which, by drawing off part of the precious metals, would tend to equalize their distribution, and make the prices of commodities and labour approximate.

That the exclusive privileges of the Bank of England should, on a future renewal of its charter, be confined to the metropolis, and, after a certain time, no private individual or firm should be permitted to issue bank notes at all, nor public or Joint Stock Companies to issue any under five or ten pounds.

It is manifest, from the preceding examination of the changes in the value of money, that the circumstances attending them have materially added to the burthen of the national debt; and, as connected with the subject we have been discussing, some alleviation might be derived from a tax on all foreign loans that may hereafter be negotiated in this country.—p. 239—242.

The True Church viewed in contrast with Modern High-Churchism.
By THOMAS FINCH, author of "The Assumptions of the Clergy calmly Refuted," "A Summary of Christian Principles," &c. &c. London: Jackson and Walford.

WE beg to tender the author of this little volume our sincere and hearty thanks for the service he has rendered the cause of truth. His work is characterised by patient thought, extensive reading, close argumentation, skilful arrangement of his materials, courteousness of spirit, and a style of considerable purity, evenness, and power. If we were to take any exception to the mode in which he has executed his task, it would be to the somewhat formal dignity which he uniformly preserves from the commencement of his book to the close, which gives it an aspect of dulness and monotony. He never relaxes into a smile. He encounters every absurdity of a most absurd system with the utmost gravity. Light weapons he eschews. He is a heavy-armed dragoon. But if his movements are less agile than those of many polemical writers of the present day, his aim is sure, and his blow overwhelming. He thinks clearly, and expresses himself nervously—and this seems to be all that, in his estimation, is worth attempting. His work is an essentially good one, but not what we should call, taking.

The necessity which exists for meeting high-churchism, or Puseyism, in the field of sober argument compels us to take the ordinary flourishes about the enlightenment of the present age at a very considerable discount. Society cannot, surely, be far advanced in intellectual cultivation, nor can the schoolmaster have been abroad to much purpose, if elaborate treatises are needed to dissuade men from putting out the eyes of their reason, stabbing the freedom of their conscience, and delivering up their souls, bound and manacled, at the bidding of haughty and arrogant priests. If our dearest, noblest, most enduring interests, are indeed, as pretended, committed to the keeping of a body of men sometimes called "the clergy," and named by themselves "the church"—men whose claims to come between us and God and deal out the eternal blessings of the gospel rest not upon superior knowledge or sanctity, but upon the imposition of episcopal hands in unbroken succession from apostolic times down to their own—if, in sober verity, rites administered by these men, even where piety is clearly absent, become efficacious to salvation, while the same rites administered by other men, even to those in whom piety blooms and bears fruit, are null and void—if a priesthood, violating, in the very constitution of the church in which they minister, the charities of the gospel; swearing "unfeigned assent and consent" to doctrines which are contradictory one of another; and preaching, under the sanction of that oath, all the variations of creed from pole to pole of the religious world, are to be submitted to as the only divinely authorised expositors of revelation, and are empowered to anathematise or dispense pardon—if this be Christianity, then is Christianity a mere juggle—a worthless, inconsistent, childish thing—unworthy of God, and dishonourable to man—crippling the intellect, de-throning the conscience, nipping our holiest affections in the bud—dealing out death to every lofty aspiration of the human mind—a mere spiritual Chinese shoe, to hinder the growth of that which God made to grow, and to deform and render useless what He designed to be at once beautiful and serviceable. But this is not Christianity—it has not the semblance of it—not a vestige of it can be found in the sacred volume—it is a lie, concocted by monks without religion, and palmed off upon men without sense, to pamper a lust of power, and to feed insatiable avarice.

That many of the advocates of this puerile scheme are sincere in its advocacy we can well believe; nor shall we presume to deny them the possession of piety where we see its fruits. But amongst these fruits we do not rank numerous genuflexions, long and frequent prayers, bodily austerities, and zeal that would kiss the stake. The Pharisees of old exhibited all these virtues, but were not the less vehemently denounced as hypocrites. Men who frame a system out of their own corrupt passions, instead of doing homage to that which God has framed for them, may be very sincere—but then it is the sincerity of an impious arrogance of soul which bespeaks in-

ward distaste for the simplicity of the gospel. They never saw the face of heaven's truth—they never caught a glance of her beaming glory—they never bowed their souls in admiration of her exceeding loveliness; they turned away from her in disgust, and set to work to fashion, out of their ignorance, pride, and passion, an idol after their own hearts; and, after worshipping it themselves, they run hither and thither with all the fiery zeal of delusionists to make others proselytes to their pestilent superstition.

The success of these advocates for a new mediation, whilst it is conspicuous among those who aspire to be mediators, is not very flattering among those for whom the office is assumed. Apostolical succession and more than apostolical pretensions may be popular enough amongst the clergy, but present few charms to the minds of the laity. It makes all the difference in susceptibility, in reference to this complaint, whether, when it is taken, the subject of it is to take place among the dupers or the dupes. Some affect to believe who privately laugh at the absurdity—others, identifying "the church" with christianity, do believe it; but the vast body of the laity are beyond the reach of such trash—look upon it as the mere mildew of the cloister—an article which spiritual virtuosos may collect and preserve, but which, in the broad world, can never become a marketable commodity. There never was a quack who could not find some enthusiast to patronise his nostrum—and there is no trumpery which cannot be puffed into a semblance of popularity; but the reputation of a quack is short-lived, and the popularity of what is worthless dies before the dawn of common sense. We are somewhat sceptical, therefore, as to the extensive usefulness of any elaborate attempts to prove nonsense no sense. They help to make important that which is inherently little. Nature generally cures a pimple more thoroughly than physic. Let the blotch alone, and a moderately healthy constitution will throw it off.

"In shade let it rest like a delicate flower,
O breathe on it softly, it dies in an hour."

If, however, the blotch spreads, and the circumjacent parts become inflamed, threatening serious disorder, it is a sign that an alterative is required—that something is radically wrong, which a mere dose will not remove. It is surprising to us that Puseyism is not more generally regarded in its proper light, as a symptom rather than a disease. Separate the connection between church and state, and Puseyism would very speedily die away. It is nothing more than an eruption thrown out by protestant episcopal ascendancy. Were we to drive it in, and cause it to disappear beneath the surface, so long as that ascendancy remained the cure would be only apparent, not real. The high-church rash, which is ever and anon breaking out, must be eradicated by voluntaryism. There is no other specific.

This Mr. Finch, with his characteristic strong sense, seems to perceive. Meanwhile, as voluntaryism does its work but slowly, he has turned his attention to the mitigation of some of the most urgent symptoms. And what he has undertaken to do he has done skilfully. As far as argument can reach Puseyism, he has reached it. And those who will avail themselves of his labours will at least be furnished with a preservative against the disease.

The Plain Christian guarded against some popular Errors respecting the Scriptures. A Tract for these Times. By the Rev. J. LEIFCHILD, D.D. London: Ward and Co.

THIS tract is the first of a projected series. The sample is good, and we have little doubt that the bulk will be of the same quality. The inspiration, the sufficiency, the intelligibility and the great end of the scriptures are here asserted and maintained in a plain, popular, and nervous style. Puseyism is not named in the tract, but it is evidently the author's intention to knock some of the main principles of that system on the head. He uses a very short weapon, but it is well leaded; and, without any parade, he effectually disposes of the errors which cross his path, generally with a single blow. Down they go before him, one after another—and onward goes he to the point for which he started. Dr. Leifchild has displayed sound judgment, we think, in choosing an aggressive position rather than a defensive one. Men may easily spend a lifetime in beating back false doctrine, or in throwing up entrenchments against the assaults of false principles—and, with all their success, remain just where they were at the beginning. But they whose plan of campaign embraces for its main object the making good positive truth, and establishing sound principles, encountering error only because it stands as a barrier to their progress, not only discomfit their adversaries, but win ground, and occupy the main passes to the country they are aiming to subdue. We hope Dr. Leifchild will stick to this plan—and should our hope be realised, we venture to predict for his series of "Tracts for these Times" not merely an extensive circulation, but what is better, wide success.

Ministerial Character established. A Discourse delivered at the Ordination of the Rev. B. H. Kluht. By SAMUEL RANSOM. London: J. Unwin.

APOSTOLICAL succession again! Really this doctrine is more honoured than it deserves. We are not going to hash up any remnants of thoughts which we have on this subject. Mr. Ransom's discourse is an able one, and the occasion on which it was delivered was a very legitimate one. We notice it that we may put a friendly question to the author. In stating the authority which dissenters possess to be ministers of God's word, he sets forward "orderly appointment by approved ministers." We beg Mr. Ransom to explain the essential difference between this and apostolical succession. If the authority of a minister is rendered valid by an "orderly appointment by other ministers," then is that authority transmitted from one clerical generation to another, and an unbroken succession must be necessary to the vitality of the church. Let Mr. Ransom read over all the reasons he has urged under his second division, and he will perceive that they tell as distinctly against his doctrine, as against the one he is overthrowing. He admits indeed that there may be exceptions—but the exceptions, he says, do not disprove the rule—the "appointment" being one of the elements requisite to constitute fitness for office. Now we do not deny that when a person takes the spiritual oversight of a people, the recognition of that union by neighbouring churches, not ministers viewed apart from their churches, may be expedient for the sake of order; but we deny, most emphatically, that the New Testament warrants the conclusion that one minister's, or a hundred ministers' appointment, is necessary to give a man authority to preach the word or dispense christian ordinances. Not a line can be adduced from the sacred volume which gives to a minister of the gospel a particle of power beyond the church which has voluntarily chosen him to

preside over it. Not a single reason can be shown, why the valid administration of ordinances should be in any case dependent upon a man's appointment to it by his brethren. The mischief of this doctrine is daily extending—a line of demarcation is drawn between the clergy and the laity—certain persons are regarded as having power to edify the church who have few qualifications—others who have eminent qualifications are denied the power. It is high time that these rags of popery were cast off. Earnestly do we wish that some one, well fitted for the task, would give to the world a new work on "the liberty of prophesying," and settle the scriptural principles on which the validity of the christian ministry was placed by the head of the church.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *Letters to the Bread Eaters.* No. I.
2. *Slavery in America* shown to be peculiarly abominable, both as a Political anomaly, and an outrage on Christianity. By WILLIAM DAY. London: Hamilton and Co. 1841.
3. *Painter's Parliamentary Guide for 1841*; containing the Ministers of State and Members of the Houses of Lords and Commons, with their residences. London: Painter, Strand.
4. *An Appeal to Baptists* on the Necessity and Importance of the Maintenance of their Denominational Principles as essential to the Establishment of the Kingdom of God upon Earth. By THEOPHILUS. London: Dyer, 24, Paternoster Row. 1841.
5. *The Polytechnic Journal.* A Magazine of Art, Science, and General Literature. August, 1841. London: Polytechnic Journal Office, 13, Wellington Street North, Strand.
6. *Reply of the Canada Wesleyan Conference, June, 1841*, to the Proceedings of the English Wesleyan Conference, August and September, 1840. With an Appendix. London: T. Tegg. 1841.
7. *The Objects of the Voluntary Church Society stated and defended.* A Lecture delivered in the Exchange Buildings, Bradford, March 9, 1841. By the Rev. WALTER SCOTT, President of Airedale College. Bradford: Byles. Liverpool: Marples, and sold by all booksellers.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

On Wednesday, August 11th, the Rev. John Parry, late student of Blackburn Academy, was ordained pastor of the Independent church at East Cowes, Isle of Wight. In the afternoon, at three, the Rev. Mr. Spence, of Newport, introduced the service; the Rev. H. Griffiths, of Stroud, delivered a discourse on priesthood; the Rev. T. Mann, of West Cowes, asked the usual questions; and the Rev. T. S. Guyer, of Ryde, offered the ordination prayer. In the evening the Rev. W. Warden, of Ventnor, introduced the service; the Rev. T. Parry, of London, addressed his brother, the newly-ordained pastor; the Rev. J. Reynolds, of Romsey, preached to the people; and the Rev. J. Adey, of London, concluded by prayer the deeply-interesting services of the day.

We understand the letters of Mr. W. Small, surgeon, of Boston, on the doings of the Wesleyan methodists, and the letters signed "A Hater of Priestcraft," for being the suspected author of which, Mr. S. was expelled the society, are about to be collected and published as a pamphlet.

Mr. Brewer, late of Stepney college, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the baptist church at Coleford, Gloucestershire, and purposes entering upon his pastoral labours on Sunday, the 29th instant.

A very beautiful structure has been lately erected in the East India-road by Mr. George Green, the ship-owner and ship-builder of Blackwall, and was opened on Thursday week for the purpose of religious worship by Dr. Raffles, of Liverpool, and the Rev. Mr. Sherman, of Surrey Chapel. The services were attended by a respectable congregation, and on both occasions were excessively crowded. The chapel is calculated to seat 1500 persons, and its exterior is neat and elegant, the front being adorned with a noble portico, consisting of fluted Corinthian pillars and pilasters, surmounted by a tower, the angles of which present columns of the same order, supporting the dome of the tower. The interior of the chapel is elegantly finished, the roof and galleries being supported by bronzed columns and capitals. The whole expense of erecting and finishing the chapel, the purchase of the ground and cemetery at the rear of the building, has been defrayed by Mr. Green, and will be devoted to the use of the public. Mr. Hoskins is the architect, and the estimated expenses of the whole, completed, is 6000*l.* In addition to this, a house is now erecting, for the future minister of the chapel to reside at, near the scene of his labours. Mr. Green has built, and now supports, a school, where 350 children are clothed and educated; and the beautiful building, the Sailors' Home, recently erected by him for the accommodation of the crews of his numerous ships, has cost 15,000*l.*

On Monday last Mr. James Beddow, lately a student at Rotherham college, was publicly set apart for the pastoral office, at Salem chapel, Burley, in Wharfdale, over the church and congregation worshipping in which place he has been unanimously chosen to preside. The Rev. Thomas Scales, of Leeds, introduced the services by reading suitable portions of holy scripture, and offering solemn prayer for the divine presence and assistance. The Rev. E. Jukes, of Leeds, then delivered the introductory discourse, which was an able exposition of the views of congregational dissenters, in respect to the nature and obligations of the pastorate. The usual questions were then put by the Rev. J. S. Hastie, of Otley. The ordination prayer was offered by the Rev. J. G. Miall, of Bradford. The Rev. John Ely, of Leeds, then addressed the young pastor in the language of solemn warning, counsel, and encouragement, from 1 Kings xx. 11. "Let not him that girdeth on his harness boast himself as he that putteth it off." The Rev. James Pridie, of Halifax, preached to the people, and faithfully enforced upon them the duties they owed to their newly ordained pastor.

On Sunday, August 8th, two sermons were preached at the Baptist chapel, Tewkesbury, on behalf of the Baptist Missionary Society, by the Rev. Chas. Birrell, of Liverpool. The sum of 34*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* was collected at the close of the services. On the following evening the anniversary meeting was held, when W. B. Gurney, Esq., treasurer to the parent society, presided. Interesting addresses were delivered by the Revs. W. Dendy, C. Birrell, J. Smith, and Mr. Charles Bernard, a negro and a deacon of the chapel at Bethephill, Jamaica. The collection amounted to 19*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*

MARRIAGES.

August 3, at New Park street chapel, Southwark, by the Rev. G. FRANCIES, Mr. DANIEL EVANS, of Blackfriar's road, to ESTHER, eldest daughter of the Rev. G. FRANCIES, of the Baptist chapel, Waterloo road, Lambeth.

August 3, at Castlegate chapel, Nottingham, by the Rev. Dr. ALIOTT, Mr. THOMAS MARSHALL, lace manufacturer, Nottingham, to Miss SINGLETON, niece of Mr. BARTON, Wicker.

August 5, at the Baptist chapel, Bradinch, by the Rev. C. SHARP, the Rev. F. H. BOLESTON, baptist minister, Saint hill, Kentisbeer, Devon, to Miss SARAH SOUTHWOOD WEEKS, of Exeter.

August 12, at Star lane chapel, Stamford, by the Rev. T. ISLIP, the Rev. F. ISLIP, of Thirfield, Herts, to BETSEY, second daughter of Mr. JOHNSTON, of Rutland terrace, Stamford.

August 11, at the Independent chapel, Felsted, by the Rev. J. MARK, Mr. THOMAS PRENTICE, eldest son of THOMAS PRENTICE, Esq., of Stowmarket, to CATHERINE, fifth daughter of WILLIAM RIDLEY, Esq., of the Bury, Felsted.

DEATHS.

August 10, at the Academy House, Well street, Hackney, ANN, the wife of the Rev. GEORGE COLLISON, the theological tutor of that institution.

August 7, at Charlton, Gloucestershire, Lady MARY MORGELE, daughter of the late Earl of LISTOWEL.

August 3, at Scarisbrick Hall, Lancashire, where he had just arrived for change of air, the Rev. ROBERT ALEXIUS HOOLE POPE, of the catholic chapel, Coventry, in the 47th year of his age.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, August 13.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act 6 and 7 Wm. IV., cap. 85:—

Bethesda chapel, Swansea, Glamorganshire. C. Collins, superintendent registrar.

York chapel, Swansea, Glamorganshire. C. Collins, superintendent registrar.

St. Augustine's Roman catholic church, Preston, Lancashire. Joseph Thackeray, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

PICKSTOCK, THOMAS, Clement's lane, City, merchant.

BANKRUPTS.

ANTON, GEORGE, and MITCHELL, GEORGE DUNCAN, of the corn exchange, Mark lane, City, corn factors, to surrender August 21, Sept. 24: solicitors, Messrs. Amory and Co., Throgmorton street.

CLIFTON, HENRY, Bath Lodge, Worcestershire, proctor, August 23, Sept. 24: solicitors, Messrs. Hydes and Tymbs, Worcester, and Mr. Hall, 11, New Boswell court, Lincoln's inn, London.

FOSTER, ABRAHAM, Bridgewater, Somersetshire, draper, August 23, Sept. 24: solicitors, Messrs. Jenkins and Abbott, 8, New inn, London, and Messrs. W. L. and C. Clarke, Bristol.

LOSH, WILLIAM and JOHN, Manchester and Carlisle, calico printers, August 31, Sept. 24: solicitors, Messrs. Abbott and Arney, 10, Charlotte street, Bedford square, London, and Messrs. E. and R. W. Bennett, Manchester.

NEWHAM, JAMES, and PEARSON, GEORGE, Ryde, Isle of Wight, linen drapers, August 23, Sept. 24: solicitors, Messrs. Hardwick and Davidson, 14, Cateaton street, London, and Messrs. Randall and Eldridge, Southampton.

NEWTON, GEORGE, Martock, Somersetshire, builder, August 31, Sept. 24: solicitors, Mr. Craig, 4, Harpur street, Red Lion square, London, and Mr. J. T. Vining, Yeovil.

SMITH, JAMES, EDGELEY, THOMAS, and SMITH, BRYCE, Manchester, Scotch and Manchester warehousemen, August 28, Sept. 24: solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Worthington, Manchester, and Messrs. R. M. and E. Baxter, Lincoln's inn, London.

THOMPSON, GEORGE, South Shields, Durham, victualler, August 30, Sept. 24: solicitors, Mr. Hodgson, 32, Broad street buildings, London, and Mr. J. Wilson, and Mr. C. A. Wawn, South Shields.

WHITE, JOSEPH, East Cowes, Isle of Wight, ship builder, August 24, Sept. 24: solicitors, Mr. Lambert, 4, Raymond's buildings, Gray's inn, London, and Mr. J. Hoskins, Gosport and Portsmouth.

DIVIDENDS.

Sept. 4, Firth, of the Coburg Arms, Webber street, Lambeth—Dec. 27, Harris, Faversham, Kent, grocer—Sept. 6, Orchard, now or late of Bath, upholsterer—Sept. 3, Fletcher, Horsforth, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer—Sept. 3, Stanley, Leeds, cloth merchant—Sept. 4, Bainbridge, Leeds, woolstapler—Sept. 3, Armsby, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, chemist—Sept. 11, R. J. and J. Fowles, Rochdale, Lancashire, builders—Sept. 8, Hawes, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk, common brewer—Sept. 3, Hebblewhite, Kingstone-upon-Hull, woolen draper—Sept. 8, Ware, Tiverton, Devonshire, tanner—Sept. 7, Barker, Birmingham, plater—Sept. 22, Franks, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, hatter—Sept. 10, Mullins, late of Goathurst, Somersetshire, but now of Bridgewater, scrivener—Sept. 9, Williamson, Boston, Lincolnshire, carpenter—Sept. 14, Keale, Liverpool, grocer.

CERTIFICATES—Sept. 3.

Watkinson, jun., Meredith street, Clerkenwell, grocer—Treasnor, Birmingham, hardware—Ely, heretofore of Nottingham, and late of Gedling, Nottinghamshire, farmer—Procter, Stockwell, Surrey, and late of Hammersmith, Middlesex, lunatic asylum keeper—Sayers, Hapstead green, Sussex, draper—Marreco, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant—Jevon, jun., Bilston, Staffordshire, innkeeper—Bland, Bedford row, Middlesex, attorney at law—Wilson and Crighton, Manchester, calico printers—Williamson, Boston, Lincolnshire, carpenter—Dodgson, Leeds, victualler—Huddleston, Monkwearmouth shore, Durham, boat builder—Kymer, late of Winsford, Cheshire, and of Bucklersbury, London, salt manufacturer.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Bromley and Brack, 14, King's place, Commercial road, St. George's, lead and glass merchants—Padley and Co., Swansea, coal merchants—Smale and Harvie, Bideford, Devonshire, attorneys—Davis and Clifford, Northampton, coach makers—Funnell and Hawes, Brighton, poulters—Thompson and Creswell, Manchester, attorneys—Arthur and Topham, Manchester, packers—Grumbridge and Speakman, 99, Ratcliffe highway, linen drapers—J. L. and C. J. Clarke, Taunton, Somersetshire, drapers—S. and E. J. Harris, Fordington, Dorsetshire, nurserymen—S. and W. P. Ware, Chard, Somersetshire, surgeons—Ashton and Withnell, Liverpool and Dominica, merchants—Sellers and Pierce, Exeter, baby linen makers—Hembry and Smart, Frampton Cotterell, Gloucestershire, millers—James and Leach, Newport, Monmouthshire, merchants—Myers and Sternberg, Cheltenham, pawnbrokers—G. R. and T. R. Chappell, Manchester and Beswick, Lancashire, fustian manufacturers—Haigh and Stanfield, Wakefield, Yorkshire, woolstaplers—E. and J. Marshall, 41, Clifton street, pewterers—Story and Robinson, 157, Bond street, tailors—M. M. and A. Wilkin, Liverpool, ship and general agents—Whidborne and Ocock, 36, Judd street, Brunswick square, surgeons—Thomson and Co., Ramsgate, Kent, wine and spirit merchants (so far as regards Thomson)—Smith and Co., of the Victoria foundry, Leeds (so far as regards Taylor, Fletcher, and Archer)—Hall and Barton, Rotherhithe, Surrey, contractors—Turnbull and Cowan, Wooler, Northumberland, linen and woollen drapers—Zepfel and Co., Huddersfield, Yorkshire, and Oldham, Lancashire, German clock makers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BAIN, JOHN, Port Glasgow, baker, August 18, Sept. 8.

INGLIS, JAMES, Glasgow, writer, August 19, Sept. 9.

LAING, WILLIAM, Edinburgh, cow feeder, August 20, Sept. 24.

MASON, or M'DONALD, ALEXANDER, sometime of Inverness, iron merchant, but now of Ayr, shopman, August 18, Sept. 15.

MUNRO, WILLIAM, Glasgow, writer, August 24, Sept. 21.

ROSS, JOHN, Portobello, spirit dealer, August 18, Sept. 11.

Tuesday, August 17.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act 6 and 7 Wm. IV., cap. 85:—

St. Mary's chapel, Sunnyside, Lancashire. Henry King, superintendent registrar.

St. Peter's church, Castlehall, Cheshire. Josh. Higginbottom, superintendent registrar.

The Catholic church of St. John, Neithrop, Oxfordshire. G. Moore, superintendent registrar.

DECLARATIONS OF INSOLVENCY.

HUTCHISON, GEORGE, Huntley street, Bedford square, cabinet maker.

SCOTT, JOHN, Brickhill lane, Upper Thames street, drysalter.

WARD, JAMES, Albert terrace, Shepherd and Shepherdess walk, City road, cabinet maker.

WILLIAMSON, JOSHUA, Nicholas lane, Lombard street, merchant.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

IRVING, GEORGE POCOCK, Rotherhithe, ship builder.

BANKRUPTS.

ATKINSON, THOMAS, Lancaster, grocer, Sept. 10, 28: solicitors, Messrs. Robinson and Dodson, Lancaster, and Messrs. Makinson and Sanders, Elm court, Temple, London.

CASACUBERTA, ANNE, Manchester, merchant, August 27, Sept. 28: solicitors, Messrs. Norris and Co., Bartlett's buildings, Holborn, London, and Mr. Norris, Manchester.

CLAUGHTON, NATHANIEL, Dixon mill, Yeadon, York, fulling miller, August 24, Sept. 28: solicitors, Messrs. Battye and Co., Chancery lane, London, and Mr. Higham, Brighouse, Halifax.

CRUTCHETT, JAMES, Stroud, Gloucestershire, pawnbroker, August 26, Sept. 28: solicitors, Messrs. Shearman and Evans, Gray's Inn square, London; Mr. Herbert, Painswick; and Mr. Paris, Stroud, Gloucestershire.

DARCY, JOHN, and DIERDEN, RICHARD, Sutton, Lancashire, alkali manufacturers, August 27, Sept. 28: solicitors, Mr. Norris, Liverpool, and Messrs. Norris and Co., Bartlett's buildings, Holborn, London.

FAWCETT, WILLIAM, Manchester, manufacturer, Sept. 8, 28: solicitors, Messrs. Turner and Hensman, Basing lane, London, and Mr. Bennett, Manchester.

HOSKIN, THOMAS, Leeds, grocer, August 26, Sept. 28: solicitors, Messrs. Battye and Co., Chancery lane, London, and Mr. Shackleton, Leeds.

JONES, FREDERICK, City road, draper, August 25, Sept. 28: solicitor, Mr. Humphreys, Queen street, Cheapside.

LAMPORT, WILLIAM HENRY, Plymouth, silversmith, August 25, Sept. 28: solicitor, Mr. Lloyd, Cheapside.

LEWIS, JOHN FREDERICK, Ebley, Gloucester, woollen cloth manufacturer, August 28, Sept. 28: solicitors, Messrs. Venning and Co., Tokenhouse yard, Lothbury.

MEDLEY, HENRY and BACKHOUSE, WILLIAM, Leeds, oil merchants, August 24, Sept. 28: solicitors, Mr. Lambert, Raymond buildings, Gray's inn, London; Messrs. Snowdon and Preston, Leeds, and Mr. Smith, Leeds.

NUTTER, THOMAS, Paul street, Finsbury square, brewer, August 26, Sept. 28: solicitors, Messrs. Taylor and Co., Bedford row.

STUCHFIELD, EDWARD, Church street, Paddington green, horse dealer, August 25, Sept. 28: solicitor, Mr. Bicknell, Manchester street, Manchester square.

TRAPPS, CHARLES, Abridge, Essex, victualler, August 28, Sept. 28: solicitor, Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall street.

WRIGHT, BENJAMIN, Madeley, Salop, draper, August 26, Sept. 28: solicitors, Mr. Bigg, Southampton buildings, Chancery lane, London, and Mr. Potts, Salop.

DIVIDENDS.

September 7, Cannon, Dark house lane, Lower Thames street, fish factor and fruit merchant—September 21, Tooney, Birmingham, draper—September 13, Shephard, sen., and Shephard, jun., Southampton, painters, glaziers, and plumbers—September 8, Potts, New Mills, Derbyshire, engraver to calico printers—September 11, Nelson, Sowerby, Yorkshire, builder—September 8, Pearsall, Birmingham, pearl button maker—September 9, Nicklin, Nottingham, printer—September 13, Bannan, Blandford Forum, Dorsetshire, pianoforte maker—September 8, Orton, Box, Wiltshire, builder—September 8, Paxton, Long Ashton, Somersetshire, builder.

CERTIFICATES—September 7.

Brook, Frith street, Soho, victualler—Clarke, Portsea, ironmonger—Morgan, Pill, St. George, Somersetshire, ship and boat builder—Tyler, Birch hills, near Walsall, Staffordshire, iron master—Cawood, Sunderland-near-the-Sea, Durham, tobaccocon—Field, Cartmell, Lancashire, banker—W. & F. J. Appleford, Holborn bars, drapers and tailors—Aldrod, Southampton row, Bloomsbury, bookseller and stationer—Dannenberg, Stangate street, Lambeth, victualler—Fosbrooke, Liverpool, money scrivener.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Broom and Davies, Llanelli, Carmarthenshire, printers—Brown and Laing, Halifax, Yorkshire, drapers—Harker and Co. (so far as regards J. Firth), Horton, Bradford, Yorkshire, machine makers—Harris and Brewer, Caerleon, Monmouthshire, felt-mongers and leather dressers—Dickinson and Ayerst, Great Tower street and Jamaica place, Limehouse, attorneys at law—Jones and Co. (so far as regards E. Lloyd), Mold, Flintshire, brewers, wine and spirit merchants—Staines and Wood, Nottingham, milliners and dress makers—T. and J. Richardson, Billiter street City, tailors—M. and W. Gregory, Birmingham, wholesale hosiers—Stokes and Dunlop, King street, Snow hill, brandy distillers—Hunt and Morris, York, hairdressers and perfumers—Bumby and Mellor, Manchester, cattle dealers—M'Gregor and Howe, England and Scotland, railway contractors—Lutty and Co., Dyers' Hall, attorneys and solicitors—Savage and Collard, Little Cadogan place, Chelsea, wheelwrights and tiresmiths—Hollins and Co. (so far as regards H. Hollins, jun.), Langwith, Nottinghamshire, cotton spinners.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

DUNN, J., Edinburgh and Glasgow, optician, August 20, September 10.

FARIE, R., FRAME or FARIE, ISABELLA, and FARIE, J., jun., Glasgow, bookbinders

August 20, September 10.

FISHER, J., Auchtergaven, Perthshire, innkeeper and smith, August 25, Sept. 17.

FERGUSON, T., Cumnock, Ayrshire, carrier, August 23, September 14.

INGLIS, J., Glasgow, writer and printer, August 19, September 9.

MACDONALD, J. C., Edinburgh, doctor of medicine, August 24, September 21.

THOMSON, T. M., Glasgow, timber merchant, August 24, September 14.

BRITISH FUNDS.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols.....	89	89	89	89	89	89
Ditto for Account.....	89	89	89	89	89	89
3 per cents. Reduced.....	89	89	89	89	89	89
3½ per cents. Reduced.....	98	98	98	98	98	98
New 3½ per cent.....	98	98	98	98	98	98
Long Annuities.....	12	12	12	12	12	13
Bank Stock.....	167	168	167	168	168	168
India Stock.....	—	248	—	248	247	248
Exchequer Bills.....	14 pm.	16 pm.	14 pm.	16 pm.	16 pm.	16 pm.
India Bonds, 3 per cent.....	8 pm.	8 pm.	6 pm.	8 pm.	5 pm.	6 pm.

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, August 16.

We have only small supplies of English wheat last week and this morning, and we have a few samples of new wheat. The trade through last week was very animated, owing to the weather being wet and cold; and although this day is fine the advance is fully maintained to-day, which is 2s. per qr. on English, and 3s. on bonded wheat since this day week. We have considerable supplies of foreign wheat, which is all going to granary in bond. The quality of the new is various, and it sells at 60s. to 80s. per qr.

Flour is scarcer, and sells freely at an advance of 1s. to 2s. per sack.

Barley, beans, and peas are all in short supply, and fully maintain the prices of this day week.

The arrivals of oats are small, and demand being good they sell freely at an advance of 6d. per qr. from the rates of this day se'nnight.

	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.		
Wheat, Red New	60	66	Malt, Ordinary	50	53	Beans, Old	37	40
Fine	66	80	Pale	58	60	Harrow	37	39
White	60	66	Pens, Hog	38	41	Oats, Feed	22	24
Fine	66	78	Maple	41	43	Fine	25	29
Rye	32	36	Boilers	36	38	Poland	24	28
Barley	27	30	Beans, Ticks	35	36	Potato	23	27
Malting	34	38						

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MARSALA, the best quality imported, 24s. per dozen, £12 per quarter pipe, or £6 10s. per octave, casks included.

HENEKEY, KISLINGBURY, and CO. Gray's Inn Wine Establishment, 23, High Holborn.

HOMEOPATHY. WORKS by DR. EPPS.

On ARNICA MONTANA, and its uses in Bruises, Falls, Wounds, Sprains and Dislocations, Excessive Fatigue. 6d.

EPILEPSY and some Nervous Affections, being twenty-two cases treated successfully. 3s.

WHAT IS HOMEOPATHY? 8d.

DOMESTIC HOMEOPATHY. 2s. 6d.

CONSTIPATION CURABLE. 1s. 6d.

Sold by SHERWOOD and Co., 23, Paternoster Row, London; of whom they can be obtained, by order, through any bookseller.

LONDON and COUNTRY NEWSPAPER OFFICE,

15, Coventry Street, Haymarket.

T. MUDIE and SONS, General News

Agents and Stationers (established in 1810), respectfully intimate that they supply the **NONCONFORMIST** and all other London Newspapers at the earliest publication, and forward them carefully to every part of the Kingdom, as well as to France, Spain, Denmark, Greece, the East and West Indies, Canada, Gibraltar, Malta, and to all the other British Dependencies, *free of postage*.

N.B. Papers forwarded by the Morning Mails, if required.

Just published, price 1s. 6d.

REPLY OF THE CANADA WESLEYAN CONFERENCE, June, 1841, to the Proceedings of the English Wesleyan Conference and its Committees, August and September, 1840; with an Appendix, containing the Rev. E. RYERSON's Replies to the Wesleyan Committee, Rev. Dr. Alder, Rev. W. Lord, &c. London; THOMAS TEGG, 73, Cheapside.

Just published, price 2s.

THEOLOGICAL COURSE (Second Series) on the **BOOK OF REVELATION**, as illustrative of the History of Religion.

PALMER and SON, Paternoster Row; where may be had **FIRST SERIES**, on the **BOOK OF THE LAW**, as illustrative of the Grace of the Gospel.

Also, by the same Author,

CHURCH PRINCIPLES in their Legitimate Results; or, Essays on the **APOCALYPSE**, with Illustrations from the Oxford Divines. A New Edition.

Likewise,

THE LETTERS OF A LAYMAN to the Lord Bishop of Durham, on certain Points of Doctrine hitherto but imperfectly developed.

N.B. These LETTERS contain a full Exhibition of the

Doctrinal Errors of the Establishment, as the **ESSAYS** do

of its Errors in **Discipline**; together forming a complete

Analysis of the System.

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR		AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF		DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN FOR	
AUGUST 13.		SIX WEEKS.		THE PRESENT WEEK.	
Wheat	70s.	5d.	Wheat	66s.	4d.
Barley	34	6	Barley	32	11
Oats	23	9	Oats	22	8
Rye	35	11	Rye	35	2
Beans	41	5	Beans	39	8
Peas	44	5	Peas	43	2

SEEDS.

Cloverseed has lately met with some speculative inquiry, but we did not hear of any sales to day. Canaryseed was the turn cheaper. In the value of other articles we have no change to report.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, August 16.

We have had no beneficial change in the butter market; the prices have been steadily supported, but not improved, and the sales made have been neither numerous nor extensive. The prices current may be quoted for Carlow, 9s. to 9d. per cwt.; Waterford, 9s. to 9s.; Cork, 8s. to 9s.; Limerick, 8s. to 8s.; Sligo, 8s. to 8s., free on board, and in proportion landed. The best Friesland is 9s.

The bacon market continues steady; a good demand for prime fresh parcels, which are scarce, and worth 6s. to 6s. landed; stale and inferior, a dull sale; it is offered for forward shipment, commencing in October, at 5s. on board. The trade evince but little disposition to purchase.

Lard steady at 7s. to 7s. landed.

HOPS, BOROUGH, August 17.

The estimated duty for Kent and Sussex has fallen from £160,000 and £165,000 to £145,000 to £150,000, and for Worcester from £17,000 to £16,000. The weather having been unfavourable, the burr in the hop plantations has received some check in its growth. The market, however, has not become more animated in consequence.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, August

THE NONCONFORMIST.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, City Road.

THE NEXT HALF-YEARLY
ELECTION OF CHILDREN will take place on
WEDNESDAY, November 24, 1841.

All Applications for Admission, with the necessary Certificates, must be forwarded to the Secretary on or before the 24th day of September next. Printed Forms of Petition, &c., may be obtained on application at the School any Tuesday or Thursday, between the hours of 10 and 1 o'clock.

Children are eligible from 7 until 11 years of age. All persons becoming Subscribers on the day of Election are entitled to vote immediately.

August, 1841. JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

This Institution has admitted, since its establishment, ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED AND Two Children, a large portion of whom have been placed out in respectable situations. Subscriptions and Donations will be thankfully received by Henry Waymouth, Esq., the Treasurer, 17, Bryanstone Square; the London Joint Stock Bank, Princes Street, Mansion-house; Messrs. Fuller and Co., Moorgate Street; Messrs. Rogers, Olding, Sharpe and Co., Clement's Lane; the Secretary, at the School, City Road; and Mr. Harrison, the Collector, No. 21, Doris Street, Kennington Cross.

THE MISSIONARY'S CONFESSION

AND THE MISSIONARY'S CHARGE, being a faithful Report of the Services at the Ordination of the Rev. JOHN SMITH WARDLAW (proceeding to India), including the Charge by his Father, the Rev. RALPH WARDLAW, D.D., will be found in Nos. 481 and 482 of THE PENNY PULPIT.

No. 484, The Sin and the Doom of Ananias and Saphira. By the Rev. T. BINNEY.

No. 480, The Day of Christ's Glory and the Church's Joy. By the Rev. W. BROCK.

Parts 85 and 86, price 1s., for August, contain Sermons by Revds. W. CARTER, B.A., T. DALE, SIBREE, HARRY, BROCK, GADSBY, PHILPOT, &c., &c.

London: JAMES PAUL, 52, Paternoster Row.

Just published, 8vo., 10s. 6d., boards,

CORN LAWS AND VALUE OF MONEY.—A Review of the Proceedings of the Committee of the House of Commons on Banks of Issue, 1840; and an Inquiry into the Effects of the Bank Restriction, and the Changes in the Value of Money, with an Examination of the leading Principles in the work on Political Economy of the late DAVID RICARDO. By WILLIAM LECKIE.

"Of all that has been written on the currency question of late, there is nothing which has pleased us so much as this work. *** Close investigation and mature reflection are evident in every page."—*Railway Mag.*

London: SHERWOOD and Co., Paternoster Row; J. UNWIN, 31, Bucklersbury.

In 12mo. boards, price 4s. 6d.,

THE PLEASURES OF BENEVOLENCE. A Poem, in Two Parts.

"Our limits will not permit us to do justice to those parts of the poem which we would gladly quote, but we hope that our readers will supply this deficiency by putting themselves in possession of the work as a whole."—*Congregational Magazine.*

"To persons of pure and cultivated taste it cannot but afford decided satisfaction. The man of taste may admire it for its poetry; but the philanthropist and the Christian will derive from it impressions calculated to animate them in working the work of God, and in serving their generation according to his will."—*Eclectic Review.*

"It is a moral and didactic poem, composed on the same classical model as the 'Pleasures of Hope' and the 'Pleasures of Memory,' and, in our opinion, no unworthy companion for them."—*Evangelical Magazine.*

"It is worth all, or more than all, the moral and religious poetry that has been of late so preposterously puffed into notice."—*New Monthly Magazine.*

"This is a beautiful poem; and while we express our decided approbation on its calm spirit and classic elegance, we wish it that success which such qualities merit."—*Edinburgh Presbyterian Review.*

London: J. UNWIN, 31, Bucklersbury.

TO THE FRIENDS OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Leicester Voluntary Church Society, to make arrangements for meeting the expenses which it has incurred in the advocacy of the rights of Dissenters, beg to submit to the public the following facts:—

Somewhat more than £800 has been expended in attempting to rouse the country to effective efforts to throw off the burden of Church Rates—in getting up Petitions in support of Mr. Easthope's Bills—and in conducting protracted suits in the Civil Courts and in the Court of Chancery, to defend Mr. WILLIAM BAINES, from the oppression of the Ecclesiastical Court.

Towards this £800, £400 has been already paid by the Dissenters of Leicester. At a public breakfast, held on Friday the 23rd instant, to congratulate Mr. W. BAINES on his honourable release from imprisonment, the additional sum of one hundred and fifty pounds was collected, leaving a balance of £250 unpaid.

Persuaded that their numerous friends throughout the country will feel that Leicester has borne its share of the burden incident on this great contest, and sensible that thousands will be glad to express their approval and admiration of the noble conduct of Mr. W. BAINES, the Leicester Voluntary Church Society appeals with confidence to the enemies of ecclesiastical oppression for their kind co-operation.

Some Gentlemen have already engaged to raise ten or twenty pounds in their districts. Similar efforts in other vicinities, as well as individual contributions in aid of the design of the Society, will greatly oblige.

JAMES SARGEANT, J. P. MURSELL,
JOSEPH CRIPPS, JOHN MANNING,
JOSEPH NUNNELEY, HENRY HULL.

Leicester, July 30, 1841.

Subscriptions will be received by either of the Sub-Committee, or by Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Smiths, London, for the credit of Mr. Joseph Cripps with Parry's Leicestershire Banking Company.

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